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GLOBAL CONSENSUS MUST TO REGULATE CRYPTO, SAYS FM

All countries need to work together to effectively regulate digital assets like crypto, Nirmala Sitharaman said

TECHNOLOGY HAS NO BORDERS: SITHARAMAN

She said no one country can effectively regulate crypto assets on its own as the technology underpinning them does not respect national boundaries. "No one country individually can effectively control it. Because technology doesn't have any borders, it can just pass through," Sitharaman said speaking in Bengaluru on Sunday

A GLOBAL TEMPLATE NEED OF THE HOUR: FM

- The minister said a global template may have to be created and all countries will need to stick to it for effective regulation of crypto
- Sitharaman said regulation would not involve controlling the distributed ledger technology, which underpins crypto assets. She noted that the technology has its "goodness and potential"

11.5 crore

INDIANS EITHER OWN CRYPTO OR HAVE TRADED THEM, ACCORDING TO KUCOIN

CHENNAI ▪ MADURAI ▪ VIJAYAWADA ▪ BENGALURU ▪ KOCHI ▪ HYDERABAD ▪ VISAKHAPATNAM ▪ COIMBATORE ▪ KOZHIKODE ▪ THIRUVANANTHAPURAM ▪ BELAGAVI ▪ BHUBANESWAR ▪ SHIVAMOGGA ▪ MANGALURU ▪ TIRUPATI ▪ TIRUCHY ▪ TIRUNELVELI ▪ SAMBALPUR ▪ HUBBALLI ▪ DHARMAPURI ▪ KOTTAYAM ▪ KANNUR ▪ VILLUPURAM ▪ KOLLAM ▪ TADEPALLIGUDEM ▪ NAGAPATTINAM ▪ THRISSUR ▪ KALABURAGI

Amritpal Singh being taken into custody by police in Punjab's Moga district | PTI

Amritpal Singh arrested after 35-day manhunt

Radical preacher detained under NSA

HARPREET BAJWA @Chandigarh

PUNJAB police arrested radical preacher Amritpal Singh on Sunday, after a 35-day manhunt. He was picked up from Rode village in Moga district, the native village of Khalistani separatist-terrorist Jarnail Singh Bhindranwale. It was at a ceremony in Rode last year that he took over as the chief of Waris Punjab De.

He was taken to Dibrugarh by a special flight and lodged in a high-security prison.

Confirming his arrest, Inspector General of Police (Headquarters) Sukhchain Singh Gill said: "Amritpal was arrested at 6:45 am from Rode village as the police had intelligence inputs that he was hiding in the gurdwara of the village. The entire Rode village was cordoned off. Amritpal got the message that he was surrounded by police. Thereafter, he was arrested. We did not enter the gurdwara to maintain its sanctity. He was surrounded and had no chance to escape."

The 29-year-old radical was detained under the stringent National Security Act.

Meanwhile, former Akal Takht Jathedar Jasbir Singh Rode claimed on Sunday that Amritpal Singh reached Rode village late on Saturday night to surrender. "After paying obeisance at the gurdwara of the village where he also addressed a gathering in which he thanked people who helped him and explained his reasons of his late surrender, then he went outside of the gurdwara and surrendered before the police," said Rode.

However, IGP Gill categorically said the radical leader was arrested and that he had not surrendered.

When asked about reports of Amritpal offering prayers inside the gurudwara before the police took him into custody, Gill said he was not aware of what happened inside the gurudwara.

Police had launched a crackdown against Amritpal Singh on March 18, about three weeks after he and his supporters, many of them brandishing weapons, stormed into the Ajnala police station near Amritsar to secure the release of an arrested colleague. P8

In Dibrugarh Central Jail

Amritpal Singh was lodged in a special high-secuirty cell in Dibrugarh Central Jail in Assam after being flown in a special flight from Punjab following his arrest, senior officials said

2 IAF C-130Js, NAVAL SHIP ON STANDBY TO RESCUE INDIANS FROM SUDAN

YESHI SELI @New Delhi

WITH the ground situation in Sudan going from bad to worse, foreign nations are racing against time to evacuate their citizens from the conflict-ridden country.

On Sunday, the US and the UK said they have pulled out their diplomats from Khartoum, while other countries including France, Italy and Belgium have begun the process to evacuate their citizens.

India has put two Indian Air Force C-130J aircraft on standby in Saudi Arabia's Jeddah, the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) said on Sunday, adding that INS Sumedha has reached Port Sudan, a port city in eastern Sudan.

"As part of our preparations, and in order to move swiftly, the Government of India is pursuing multiple options," the MEA added.

According to sources, Saudi Arabia is a safer option for evacuation as they have been able to evacuate their nationals and also nationals of many other countries. India has an estimated 3,000 nationals in Sudan. Reports said three Indians were among the 66 foreign nationals that Saudi Arabia evacuated on Saturday.

Last week, External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar had spoken to his counterpart in Saudi Arabia and asked for help in evacuating Indians stuck in Sudan. India is also in touch with Egypt, the UK, the UAE and the US for help in the evacuation process.

"The Indian embassy is functional. However, it is very close to the airport at Khartoum where a lot of shelling is taking place. We are extremely cautious," MEA spokesperson Arindam Bagchi said, adding that the control room in Delhi is facilitating information for family members of those stranded in Sudan.

Officials said contingency plans are firmly in place but any movement on the ground would depend on the security situation, which continues to be volatile with reports of fierce fighting at various locations in Khartoum. The Sudanese airspace currently remains closed for all foreign aircraft. Overland movement has its own risks besides logistical challenges.

"Our Embassy is in regular touch with the stranded Indians in Sudan and is advising them on the viability of safe movement and the need to avoid unnecessary risk. It is also coordinating all possible assistance including possible exit from Khartoum city as and when the security situation permits safe movement," said MEA. P9

Evacuation ops in full-swing

A convoy of vehciles leaving Sudan's capital Khartoum towards Port Sudan on Sunday | AFP

Around **100** people of multiple nationalities evacuated from Sudan on a French flight on Sunday

The US military sent **three** Chinook helicopters to evacuate **100** embassy staff from Khartoum

The British army evacuated UK embassy staff & their families

Turkey began operations to evacuate **600** nationals by road from Khartoum

420 people, including 264 civilians, have been killed and more than 3,700 have been wounded in the fighting

Explosions rocked Khartoum on Sunday, leaving the sky over the airport with thick black smoke . The group fighting the army claimed the latter launched airstrikes on an upscale neighbourhood

BARTER PACT

State strikes deal with UP, Raj as power demand peaks

BOSKY KHANNA @Bengaluru

WITH the increasing demand for power in the state, especially during nights, the state energy department has entered into a barter agreement with its counterparts in Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh.

"It is not a financial agreement, but a barter system. The amount of power received by Karnataka from Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh now (during April and May) will be given back to those states during June and July, when Karnataka will be experiencing monsoon showers keeping the power requirement low. But in those states, the demand will be high during that time," a senior official from the department told The New Indian Express.

The official said the state is receiving 10 million units from Uttar Pradesh and 200 MW from Rajasthan every day.

Karnataka, as well as Bengaluru, on Friday saw a peak in daily consumption and demand. Officials said the peak consumption (24 hours) on April 20 was 309.5 million units across the state and it was 146 million units in Bangalore Electricity Supply Corporation Limited (Bescom) limits. In previous years, the highest consumption demand was in the last week of March, when Karnataka needed 299 million units and Bengaluru 144 million units.

The peak demand (recorded between 9.30 and 11.30 am) was also on April 20 at 16,180 MW for Karnataka and 7,480 MW in Bescom limits, as per energy department records.

"This time, there is a 18-20 per cent increase in demand from the agriculture sector during the day as compared to previous years. There is also a rise in demand from the domestic sector by 4-5 per cent. The demand is not very high from industrial and commercial sectors now," the official said. P5

SECOND

CHEETAH DIES IN LESS THAN A MONTH

Weeks after a Namibian cheetah died at Kuno National Park, another one, brought from South Africa under Project Cheetah, too breathed its last on Sunday

BJP turns tables against Cong after Siddu's statement on Lingayat CM

DEVARAJ B HIREHALLI @Bengaluru

BJP that lost many of its prominent Lingayat community leaders to Congress ahead of the Assembly polls apparently got an opportunity to turn the tables against the Grand Old Party over a controversy triggered by Congress Legislature Party leader Siddaramaiah.

Asked whether Congress would make a Lingayat a chief minister if the party comes to power, Siddaramaiah said, "Already, a Lingayat is there as chief minister (Bommai), who indulged in corruption and destroyed the state."

Jumping on to this, BJP alleged that Siddaramaiah who had tried to split the community (over a separate religion status) in the past has now branded the community corrupt which is unpardonable. It is the culture of Congress and hating Veerashaiva Lingayats is in its blood, it charged.

Incidentally, the controversy blew out on Basava Jayanti day and on a day Congress leader Rahul Gandhi was taking part in the Jayanti celebrations at Kudalasangama to win the community's trust for the party.

Trying to contain the situation, the party did not give Siddaramaiah a chance to speak on the occasion.

Meanwhile, Panchamasali Lingayat seer Sri Jaya Mruthyunjaya Swamiji insisted that Siddaramaiah review and withdraw his statement.

"Lingayat community leaders S Nijalingappa, Veerendra Patil and JH Patel gave good administration. If someone is corrupt in the community, it is wrong to generalise the community as corrupt," he said. CONTINUED ON: P4

Pained by Siddu's remark, says Bommai

CM Basavaraj Bommai said he is pained by ex-CM Siddaramaiah's 'corrupt Lingayat CM' remark. "Siddaramaiah is a senior leader. I did not expect a statement like this from him that has shaken the souls of Lingayats," he said. P4

Nirmala: Buying Amul products not against state

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Bengaluru

UNION Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman, a Rajya Sabha member from Karnataka, said buying Amul products or products of any other brand is not against Karnataka.

She was speaking at an interactive session with citizens at RV Dental College on Sunday in Bengaluru, organised by the Thinkers Forum. On the Nandini and Amul issue, Nirmala said buying Amul in the absence of Nandini is not an act against Karnataka. "Every state has its own milk cooperative. Karnataka has Nandini, which is recognisable. Even now, I have Nandini milk, curds and peda. But when I travel and am in Delhi, I buy Amul. In the nearest outlet, if Nandini is not available, I'm not like a sanyasi to say I will not drink milk. I would still buy Amul. But it is required that we support Karnataka's milk farmers, especially as they are small farmers, owning one or two cows who supply to the Karnataka Milk Federation," she said.

She praised ex-CM BS Yediyurappa, crediting him for starting the trend of providing additional money to dairy farmers for milk provided. "Every step must be taken to support the farmers. Not just by any one government, but I think Yediyurappa's government should be given the credit for having given it for the first ever time. P4

ROYAL ROUT

RCB defeated RR by seven runs, who were chasing 190 after a century-stand by Glenn Maxwell and Faf du Plessis, in Bengaluru on Sunday | VINOD KUMAR T | P11

Man held for hoax letter threatening attack on PM

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Kochi

THE Kerala police on Sunday arrested a 53-year-old Kochi native who threatened a suicide bomb attack on Prime Minister Narendra Modi during the latter's two-day visit to the state on Monday.

Xavier Anjanikal wrote the letter that was received at the BJP headquarters office last week. He had written it posing as N J Johny, a fellow parishgoer with whom he allegedly holds a grudge. He had written a fake letter in Johny's name three years ago too.

"We got his handwriting analysed and confirmed the threat letter was written by him. There is no need to panic. The threat is a hoax," said Kochi City Police Commissioner K Sethu Raman.

After BJP leaders handed them the letter, the police reached Johny's house and recorded his statement. "We compared handwriting and confirmed that Johny did not write the letter. He then told us about the three-year-old incident in which Xavier had written a fake letter in his name," said an official from the Ernakulam North police station.

The police checked both letters and found that the handwriting matched.

He was taken into custody on Saturday night after registering an FIR and his arrest was recorded on Sunday.

BJP backing Ajit against pact with us, says Shiv Sena

SUDHIR SURYAWANSHI @Mumbai

AMID talks of an impending collapse of Maharashtra's Eknath Shinde-led government and NCP leader Ajit Pawar being anointed the state's next chief minister with the blessings of the BJP, the chief whip of Shiv Sena warned that any move from the BJP to help Pawar would go against the pact it signed with Sena.

Ajit Pawar

Bharat Gogawale said when the alliance with the BJP was formed, it was decided that Shinde will remain the chief minister till the next elections in 2024.

"We will not allow this (Ajit Pawar becoming CM) to happen under any conditions. The given word should be honoured," Gogawale said. Shiv Sena MLA Sanjay Shirsat said if Pawar is made the CM, then his party will not be part of the government.

Meanwhile, Shiv Sena (UBT) leader Sanjay Raut claimed Shinde's government will collapse in the next 15 days. Raut said the death warrant of the government has already been issued.

"The BJP had told the chief minister to pack his bags. Now that the court verdict will be out, the Shinde government will collapse," Raut said.

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Hijab row: Slim gains for SDPI, Cong to benefit

Muslims in coastal K'taka feel only the GOP can protect their interests especially after the quota was scrapped

VINCENT D'SOUZA
@ Mangaluru

THE hijab controversy that had reached its peak a year ago is unlikely to benefit the Social Democratic Party of India (SDPI) in the Assembly elections, said political analysts.

By spearheading the campaign against the hijab ban, SDPI was gradually attracting the Muslims, especially the youth towards them in Udupi and Dakshina Kannada where the community is about 20 per cent of the population. Bolstered by the overwhelming response from the Muslim college students, SDPI fielded candidates in constituencies where Muslims are in significant numbers. In undivided Dakshina Kannada, it has fielded candidates in Mangaluru, Bantwal, Puttur, Moodbidri, Belthangady and Kaup.

However, over the last six months, with the government scrapping 4 per cent sub-reservation for Muslims, the community is feeling more marginalised and disgruntled with the saffron camp. This can

only be effectively countered only by Congress.

Political scientist Prof Muzaffar Assadi feels SDPI may get some votes in Mangaluru and Bantwal constituencies where the density of Muslims is high, but they will be unable to dent the prospects of Congress.

He said that using the hijab row, SDPI has played the victim card. The party also tried to trigger a sense of security in the community which cannot be denied. But the community is fuming after the reservation decision, and want it to be restored. For that, they will support the Congress. "The collective consciousness (of Muslims) will support the Congress more than SDPI," he said.

Altaf (name changed), a first-time voter from Bantwal, who took part in CFI protests during the hijab controversy feels that the community stands to gain if the secular votes are not split. "I want 2B reservation to be restored and will vote for a party that can assure that," he said.

A Congress leader said that the Muslims, especially in coastal Karnataka, will vote strategically in this election. "They did not take part in large numbers in the nomination filing of Congress leaders in DK. But they are silently working to defeat their biggest enemy," he said.

Reward twist to election prediction

Mangaluru: To make the elections more interesting, rationalist Prof Narendra Nayak has challenged astrologers and others to predict the outcome of the May 10 polls and win a prize money of Rs 10 lakh. Earlier, he had made such announcements, but all of them who tried, made wrong predictions. "On behalf of the rationalist organizations, those who are interested in predicting the future with the help of sciences like astrology, numerology, palmistry, clairvoyance, I am offering a reward of Rs 10 lakhs," a statement from Nayak said. The respondents have to answer a set of 20 questions like which party will form the next government, number of seats major parties would win, who will be next CM, among others with a margin of plus or minus 5%. The respondents have to answer all questions, and they have to be specific. The correct answer should be within 90 per cent confidence limits, that is 18 answers of 20 questions should be correct. Each question carries 1 mark. If more than one entry gets the correct answers, the prize money will be divided equally. The answers have to reach Nayak, 13-9-1220/2, VT Road, Mangaluru-575001, by post or personally delivered on or before May 10, 2023. ENS

TURNOUT PUSH

People take part in a bicycle rally to create awareness for the Assembly elections, in Bengaluru on Sunday. The rally was organised by the Sports Department | EXPRESS

2 IPS officers transferred

Bengaluru: Two IPS officers have been transferred ahead of the Assembly elections. Dharmender Kumar Meena, SP and Director Forensic Science Laboratory, Bengaluru, has been posted as the Deputy Commssioner of Police, Whitefield. Dr Arun K, SP and Principal of the Police Training School, Kalaburagi, has been posted as SP, Davanagere. Karnataka Chief Electoral Officer, Manoj Kumar Meena stated that the officers have been transfers as their direct relatives have filing nomination papers in their constituencies. ENS

EXPRESS READ

IISc SIGNS MoU WITH FRENCH INSTITUTE ON AGRONOMY AND FOOD

Bengaluru: The Indian Institute of Science (IISc) signed an MoU with France for the development of agronomy, food and environment. The institute signed an MoU with National Research Institute for Agriculture, Food and the Environment (INRAE), France. The purpose of the MoU was to extend the two institutes collaboration towards developing an interdisciplinary approach in agronomy, food and environment.

Ticket-size message on polls by KSRTC

EXPRESS NEW SERVICE
@ Bengaluru

THE Karnataka State Road Transport Corporation has joined the race in creating awareness about voting for the Assembly elections.

Passengers who buy tickets on KSRTC buses will get to read the message in Kannada - 'Do not forget to cast your vote on May 10. Voting is your right' at the end of each ticket. This way, the bus corporation is trying to create awareness about voting among lakhs of passengers who travel every day on KSRTC buses.

Speaking to TNIE, KSRTC MD Anbu Kumar said, "The Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike is creating voting awareness among Bengalureans by using loudspeakers mounted onto auto-tippers that go to every street to collect garbage. Every day, more than 20 lakh people use KSRTC buses. We want to create awareness among our passengers on the importance of voting and started printing a line on paper tickets, asking people to vote".

"We are happy to be a part of the awareness campaign. Voting is fundamental right of every citizen and it is our duty to remind them to exercise their franchise," he added. He added that the bus corporation has been doing its bit to create awareness about elections among voters. Kumar said that the voting awareness campaign will continue till the elections are over.

Baig may throw spanner in works for Arshad

NAMRATA SINDWANI & CHETAN MG @ Bengaluru

SHIVAJINAGAR assembly constituency, a mix of well-to-do areas and slums, has been a stronghold of the Congress party for more than two decades. The segment found its new MLA in Rizwan Arshad, who was elected in the 2019 byelection, after Roshan Baig, a strong leader of the minority community, was mired in the IMA scam and faced disqualification.

The segment, which comprises the BBMP wards of Ramaswamypalya, Jayamahal, Halasuru, Bharathinagar, Shivajinagar, Vasanth Nagar and Sampangiram Nagar, has a domination of Muslim population, with Christian and Tamil-speaking populations making up an integral part.

Going by past trends, the Congress bastion of Shivajinagar has also seen a strong presence of the Janata Party earlier. Roshan Baig was the long-standing Congress torchbearer here.

In the 13 elections held here, Congress won seven times, Janata Party thrice while the BJP captured the seat twice. People here elected a Muslim candidate as MLA nine times, as there are more than 75,000 Muslim voters among the 2 lakh voters in the segment.

While the Congress has fielded sitting MLA Rizwan Arshad, BJP gave the ticket to N Chandra. With the nomination of the JDS candidate getting rejected, there are 21 candidates in the fray currently, while some may withdraw their nominations.

Prima facie, the fight appears to be between the Congress and BJP, but Tanveer Ahmed, who has a criminal past and who filed his papers as an independent, is turning into a hurdle for Arshad. It is said that Ahmed is backed by Roshan Baig, who wants to regain his hold on the constituency after failing to be entertained by any party.

In the 2019 bypoll, Arshad won the seat by defeating M Saravana of the BJP by a margin of 13,521 votes. This time, he has advantages such as anti-incumbency against the BJP government, and hot-button issues such as hijab and halal bans targeting the minority community, which may convert into votes for him. However, Tamil voters, who are in large numbers in at least three wards, also have a big role in deciding his fate.

Voters in the constituency have a mixed response to the candidates, with a majority saying that several basic issues such as cleanliness, garbage, leaking drainage pipes, water supply etc need to be solved on priority.

'Cement pits near trees can damage roots'

PURAN CHOUDHARY
@ Bengaluru

AS development gained precedence and green cover dwindled, Bengaluru has seen many of its trees either fall or get damaged due to the galloping speed of expansion.

Such incidents were seen on RV Road, Jayanagar and KR Road, Basavanagudi. The Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) has been digging pits next to the trees on the footpaths to erect electric poles that are damaging the roots of these old trees.

The pits are around five inches and are cemented once they are being dug up. The trees have not been axed, but what is worrying is the pits are close to the trees, which can damage the roots, impeding space for new roots.

Experts said that for such works, environmentalists and tree specialists should be consulted to preserve the city's green cover.

Yellapa Reddy, an environmentalist, said " Cementing very close to the roots will not allow water to seep into lateral roots. Despite deep roots, lateral roots play an important role in helping water reach the branches."

It's critical that lateral roots remain healthy as they make the crown area stable and maintain balance, he said, adding "If the roots are damaged, the tree can fall anytime, and injure pedestrians as the trees are on main roads," he said.

Raghavendra Pachhapur, a Jayanagar resident, said, " Why can't these poles be erected in other locations? This is negligence on BBMP's part."

Pachhapur on Twitter also accused the civic body of "feeding cement disease" to the roots of these trees.

Wanted to succeed wearing hijab, says PU arts topper

DONNA EVA @ Bengaluru

TABASSUM Shaik, who topped the arts stream in the Second Pre-University (PU) exams, scoring an astounding 593 out of 600, recalled that the success came after she battled the hijab controversy during a pivotal period of her life.

Speaking to *The New Indian Express*, Tabassum, from the NMKRV PU College for Women in Bengaluru, said she was very proud of her achievements, but she regrets that she could not do it wearing a hijab.

"The first year was relatively smooth. Towards the end of the year, there were a lot of difficulties and uncertainties. I could not wear my hijab and burqa and attend college," she told *The New Indian Express*.

She was hesitant to remove hijab, but that was the law then and she had to follow it.

When she was in a quandary, her father Abdul Khaum Shaik, an electrical engineer, and mother, Parveen Modi, a housewife, had sat her down and spoke to her.

"When the controversy erupted, I had to choose between my religion and education. It is an integral part of my identity and religion, so being forced to choose between one or the other felt illogical, especially in a secular country. For some time, I didn't attend college during that time," she said.

She also said many girl students had dropped out of her college, opting to take up correspondence courses or join open schools instead. "My parents explained to me that it was important to continue with my education. They said that if I studied hard, I could do something against this injustice. My friends were very supportive as they knew that for the first time I was going to my college without a hijab and was uncomfortable," she told *The New Indian Express*.

Tabassum has already got admission in RV University to pursue her Bachelor of Liberal Arts in Psychology. "I wanted to study psychology and build a career in mental health. After my bachelors, I want to pursue my masters and specialise in clinical psychology," she said. Tabassum's elder brother is pursuing M.Tech.

Daily Starscope

PETER VIDAL

24th April: The solar system is a loving place. I'm not joking. We recently discovered a large heart-shaped crater on Mars, followed by another one on the asteroid Eros, itself named after the deity of amorous pursuits. To me this all sounds like a good omen for romantic dreamers everywhere.

ARIES (Mar 21 - Apr. 20)
The fact that the Moon, ruling your emotions, is so very important today, suggests that not only is this a day to bring all existing plans to fruition, but also that you should do your best to force the pace. Other people need to remember who is top!

TAURUS (Apr. 21 - May 21)
It's not always a good idea to reveal all. In fact, you do seem to have something to be secretive about. All things considered, I'd say that so sudden and so curious is the current change in direction, that it may be the end of the week before you discover what is really going on.

GEMINI (May 22 - June 21)
You may throw yourself into social engagements with one hundred and one percent enthusiasm. It's a wonderful day for differences of opinion, so if you have anything to get off your chest, do so today. The one qualification is that you must stick to the facts.

CANCER (June 22 - July 23)
The time will come when you have to consider a professional or other worldly ambition in a new light. The only way to learn is to make mistakes, so don't worry about whether something is going to work out as planned. Just do it! You'll get it right next time.

LEO (July 24 - Aug. 23)
Today's energetic lunar alignments are splendid for all Leos everywhere. Focus on all adventurous schemes, throw caution to the wind and let yourself go. Hopefully, partners should take care of the practical ramifications. If they don't, then you can always sort them out in a few days' time.

VIRGO (Aug. 24 - Sept. 23)
Fortunate planetary pressures are set to produce increased prosperity and popularity for poor old Virgo! Help might come from where it is least expected, perhaps in the form of hard cash, hopefully within the next three days. If nothing happens now, then you might have to wait for another month!

LIBRA (Sept. 24 - Oct. 23)
The Sun extends its bountiful influence over you, indicating that a significant season is continuing. You may feel as if a family member is giving you a sideways push, temporarily knocking you off your perch. However, the lesson may be a salutary and much needed one.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24 - Nov. 22)
The theme for the day is hard work. In every area of life, even if you're pursuing a romantic goal, you should push yourself to the limit. There could be satisfactory developments for those of you contemplating major domestic upheavals, mainly because you're more determined than you were in the past.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23 - Dec. 22)
As from now, you should begin to allocate a higher priority to your creative powers and instincts. Today's forceful lunar alignment suggests that this is a positive time to lay your feelings on the line. Just make sure that you've got the facts straight.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 23 - Jan. 20)
A number of planetary cycles reach critical points today. Ambitious Capricorns are about to hit an assertive professional phase but, before then, all Goats must make the necessary adjustments at home. You can't afford to overlook any detail, no matter how small.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 - Feb. 19)
Today's harmonious planetary picture offers you the chance to conduct a minor revolution in almost whatever area of life you choose. Financially, keep a tight rein on family spending, and adopt a watch on younger relations. You need to know where to draw the line.

PISCES (Feb. 20 - Mar 20)
Many Pisceans labour under the illusion that they are thoroughly unmaterialistic and superior to such things as financial considerations. Just how wrong this is, will be proved over the next three days! There'll be times when you'll have a shrewd financial brain on those sensitive shoulders.

Solutions to Yesterday's puzzle

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2	3	1	6	5	7	4	8	9
6	5	7	9	8	4	1	3	2
9	4	2	5	3	1	8	6	7
8	7	5	2	4	6	9	1	3
3	1	6	8	7	9	2	5	4

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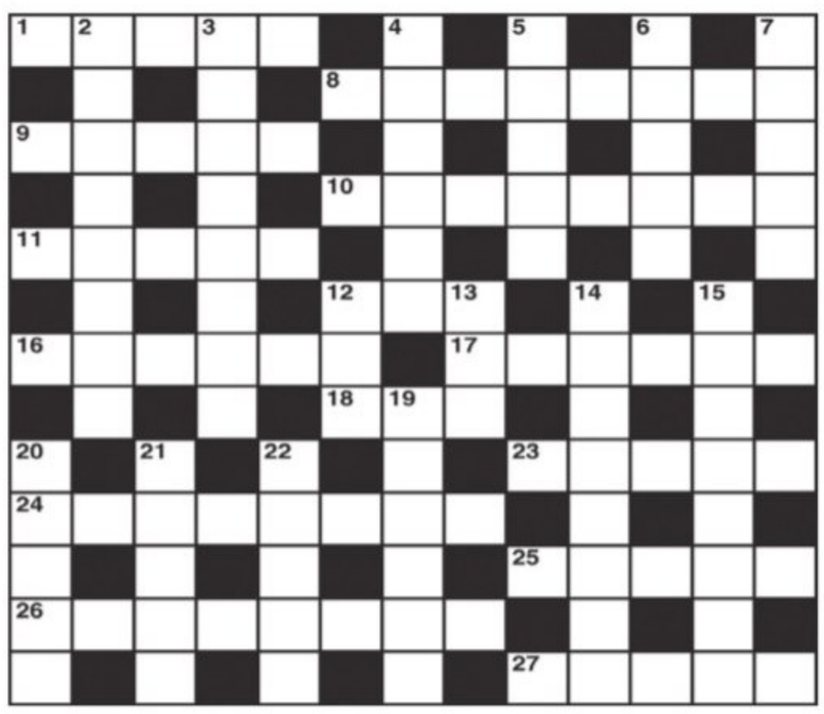
Fill in the grid with digits in such a manner that every row, every column and every 3 X 3 box accommodates the digits 1 to 9, without repeating any.



CROSS WORD

ACROSS

1 Cheese-loving children? (5)
8 Standard means for churning cheese (8)
9 Light filters for the blind (5)
10 Absent-minded girl's distinguishing feature (8)
11 Belt is damaged in parts (5)
12 Seen in a role or a roll (3)
16 Gardening accessory that's old hat (6)
17 Put out in vessel when there's an instance (6)
18 Girl in a thousand for instance (3)
23 Write to the church for money (5)
24 When a toy is broken in transit (2,3,3)
25 English fellow and French painter (5)
26 Giving no rash diagnosis? (8)
27 Noisy oriental entertainment (5)

DOWN

2 The converse of indolence (4,4)
3 Coming into play (8)
4 Wild animal seen in the Philippines (6)
5 Forger who makes his money the hard way (5)
6 Try to put it in writing (5)
7 They secure the normal shipping rates (5)
12 The ambassador takes a minute on the border (3)
13 Stick around for a drink perhaps (3)
14 See great changes in economy travel (8)
15 Sources of reports commonly regarded as crazy (8)
19 Pass away in a sleep perhaps (6)
20 The audience has half an hour to spend (5)
21 Get down to dividing bribe (5)
22 Gave a hand (5)

SATURDAY'S SOLUTIONS

Across: 1 Banana skin, 6 Trim, 10 Largo, 11 Ill temper, 12 Chairman, 13 Cadre, 15 Actions, 17 Steeped, 19 Martyrs, 21 Mastery, 22 On tap, 24 Accredit, 27 Kidnapped, 28 Sheba, 29 Rule, 30 Anemometer.

Down: 1 Bolt, 2 North Star, 3 Naomi, 4 Stigmas, 5 Islands, 7 Rapid, 8 Market days, 9 Teachers, 14 Farmworker, 16 Olympiad, 18 President, 20 Sharpen, 21 Macadam, 23 Tidal, 25 Epsom, 26 Fair.

JUMBLE

UNSCRAMBLE THESE JUMBLES, ONE LETTER TO EACH SQUARE, TO FORM FOUR ORDINARY WORDS.

BY DAVID L. HOYT AND JEFF KNUREK

RDOWL

CLOLA

EILGSH

FWLEAF

We were research partners and roommates at grad school. Oh, the stories I can tell.
And you still hang out with him?
We just can't get away from each other.
THE TWO MEN COMPETING IN THE GOLF TOURNAMENT WERE ---
Get the free JUST JUMBLE app • Follow us on Twitter @PlayJumble

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Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

(Answers tomorrow)

Saturday's Jumbles: CEASE GIDDY SUNSET UTMOST
Answer: The overly sloppy and destructive housecat was — "DOMESSTICATED"

To create awareness on life-saving measures during cardiac emergencies, Manipal Hospitals demonstrated CPR in front of a crowd of 40,000 spectators at the M Chinnaswamy Stadium during the IPL match between Royal Challengers Bangalore and Rajasthan Royals before the start of the game on Sunday afternoon

Court orders Air India, travel app to pay ₹1.48 lakh as compensation

Elderly couple suffered after flight departure delayed, upsetting vacation plan in 2019

S LALITHA @ Bengaluru

It was a small victory last week for a senior citizen couple, who got a favourable consumer court verdict ordering Air India as well as Make My Trip to jointly compensate them for the huge delay in their flight to Delhi, which upset their African Safari vacation plans. The Court ordered to pay Rs 1 lakh for the mental agony caused, Rs 38,000 towards ticket cost, and Rs 10,000 as lawyer fee.

S Ramabhadran (76), a chartered accountant, and wife R Vatsala (75), a homemaker, never imagined their trip to Kilimananjaro on December 19, 2019, would turn into a nightmare. Ramabhadran recollected to *TNIE*, "Our ticket was booked via Make My Trip portal on an Air India flight from Bengaluru to Delhi, and from there by Ethiopian Airlines to Kilimanajaro. It was a ten-day trip and one of my daughters was to join us in Africa from the US with my 2 grand daughters."

The Bengaluru flight left 1 hour 45 minutes late. When we reached Delhi, the international airline staff said the boarding gates were closed and our pre-checked luggage had been deplaned, he added. The couple then had to wait nearly 4 hours

in biting cold. "We had packed for the hot weather in Africa and had to brave 4 degree celsius at Delhi without any winter wear. I am a diabetic and we were not offered any refreshments or support. To make things worse, they said we could not use the rest room inside the airport and we had to take a roundabout route to use those outside." the septuagenarian said. Despite our request to Air India staff to book us on flights to Kilimanajaro the following day, they said there were no tickets. "My daughter paid Rs 4.75 lakh and booked new tickets on the same flight they claimed to have none available," Ramabhadran added. Once they were back, they kept reaching out to MMT and Air India with no response. "After waiting for an year, we sent a legal notice," he said. The court verdict on April 17 in the case they filed in May 2022 was some consolation.

DOCS TO PRACTICE SKILLS ON FRESH CADAVERS

ENS @Bengaluru

SURGEONS from across the world will get an opportunity to expand their skills by learning complex lateral skull-related procedures on fresh frozen cadavers in Bengaluru. The first phase of the two-week-long diploma by the World Skull Base Foundation was launched on Sunday. In total, 25 specialist doctors from Mexico, the Netherlands, Russia, Bangladesh, and other countries have applied. Lateral part of the brain is a complex area which many people do not specialise in, and this diploma provides hands-on cadaveric training, said Dr Sampath Chandra Prasad Rao, head and neck surgeon specialising in skull base surgeries.

EXPRESS READ

Upset over ill-health, doctor dies by suicide

Bengaluru: A doctor attached to Jayanagar General Hospital doctor died by suicide on Sunday afternoon. Dr A Renukananda, aged 43, was a paediatric specialist. Police said he attended duty on Sunday morning as usual. Hospital staff who visited his room in the afternoon found him hanging from the ceiling fan, by a saree. The doctor reportedly had a physical disability since birth, and was suffering from health problems. He lived in Kaval Byrasandra with his wife, a software engineer, and their two children. The doctor's death note said he was ending his life because of his health issues, and added that no one was responsible for his death. A case was registered in Tilaknagar police station.

On the occasion of Akshaya Tritiya, a woman looks at jewellery at a store in Bengaluru on Sunday | EXPRESS

Akshaya Tritiya buys dip even as gold price drops

PURAN CHOUDHARY
@Bengaluru

JEWELLERS in Bengaluru received a mixed response on the auspicious occasion of Akshaya Tritiya. While big brands saw huge footfall, smaller stores waited for sales to pick up. Last week, the yellow metal saw a marginal drop in price, giving hope to jewellery retailers. Gold prices are currently at their peak, following a 20% increase in prices since last year. As of April 21, the metal was valued at Rs 57,200 for 10 grams of 22 carats.

Praneeth from Joyalukkas said, "Sales in our store in the past two days have been great. Depending on their needs, people are purchasing, and sales have been better than last year." He added that many people are not concerned about gold prices, and are willing to purchase small items for the occasion.

However, small-scale retailers reported sluggish sales. The manager at Shanti Gold and Silver, a jewellery shop in Jayanagar, said, "People who fall in the middle-class group and below don't have spending capacity. We have seen very few sales over the weekend." Mahalakshmi Gold Palace in Malleswaram, a medium-level jewellery showroom, saw an increase in footfall on Sunday, as compared to Saturday, with decent sales.

This year, the festival was spread over two days, April 22 and April 23. Customers mostly purchased small quantities of the metal including gold and silver coins, chains, bangles and earrings.

Kannada TV actor dies by suicide

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@Bengaluru

KANNADA television actor Sampath Jayaram died by suicide on April 22. The 35-year-old actor was found hanging at his residence in Arishinakunte near Nelamangala, though there was no official confirmation about the cause of death. He is survived by his wife.

It is said that Jayaram was looking for better opportunities and was upset that he did not have good acting offers on hand.

Jayaram is widely known for his role in the popular serial Agnisakshi and recently acted in a movie. He got married last year.

Many actors mourned the death of Jayaram. Director and Jayaram's friend Rajesh Dhruva's social media post expressing sadness over the death has gone viral.

Nelamangala police suspect that the actor could have committed suicide out of frustration over lack of opportunities and maintained that they are probing the factors that led to his death. Nelamangala police have registered an unnatural death report.

Union Bank of India ASSET RECOVERY BRANCH

2/3, Raja Building, N.R Road, Bengaluru -560 002. E-mail : ubin0555991@unionbankofindia.bank

Contact No: 8369255990, 9611045818

APPENDIX-IV-A

[See Proviso to Rule 8(6) of Security Enforcement Rules, 2002]

Notice of 15 days for sale of immovable secured assets under Rule 8 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002.

E-auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Assets under The Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002, read with the provision of Rule 8(6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002, Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower(s) mentioned below that the below described immovable property mortgaged/charged to the Secured Creditor, the **Possession** of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of **Union Bank of India, Asset Recovery Branch, Bengaluru** concerned branches. Secured Creditor will be sold on **" As is where is", " As is what is " and " whatever there is"** basis, by Public E-Auction on **11.05.2023, 11:00 AM to 4:00 PM** for recovery of dues as mentioned below together with future interest and legal other expenses due to the bank/Secured Creditor from respective borrowers. The Reserve Price for Property, the Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) and Description of Property etc., are given below.

Sl. No.	Name and Address of the Borrower/Mortgagor/ Guarantor	Description of the Property	Amount Due	Reserve Price	EMD Amount
1	**1. M/s J.K Steel & Cement, Rep: by its Prop. Parthasarathi,** No.148, 2nd Cross, Hegganahalli Ramaiah Badawane, Peenya 2nd Stage, Bangalore-560058. **2.Mrs.Lalithamma** W/o Mr.G.Devarajulu, No.148, 2nd Cross, Hegganahalli Ramaiah Badawane, Peenya 2nd Stage, Bangalore-560058. **3. Mr. D.Parthasarathi** S/o Mr.G.Devarajulu, No.148, 2nd Cross, Hegganahalli Ramaiah Badawane, Peenya 2nd Stage, Bangalore-560058.	All that piece and parcel of property bearing site No.14, Khatha No.58, ASMT No.117/2, Situated at Laggere Village, Yeshwanthapura Hobli, Bangalore North Taluk, Now comes under the limits of BBMP 3rd Cross, Ramaiah Layout, Rajagopal Nagar, Peenya 2nd Stage, Bangalore-560058. Measuring East to west 40 feet and North to South 30 feet, Totally measuring 1200 sq.ft together with building and bounded on : East by: Byrahellappa Propety, West by: 25 feet Road, North by : Property No.13, South by: Property No.43.	**Rs 1,00,14,103.91 (Rupees One Crore fourteen thousand one hundred three and Ninety One Paisa Only) as on 31/03/2023**	**Rs. 1,27,55,000/- (Rupees One Crore Twenty Seven Lakhs Fifty Five Thousand only)**	**Rs. 12,75,500/- (Rupees Twelve Lakhs Seventy Five Thousand Five Hundred only)**
2	**(1) M/s Avhni Abode,** No. 126 (17), Doss Capital, 2nd Floor, 33rd Cross, 11th Main, 4th Block, Jayanagar, Bangalore-560011. **(2) Mr. K Vijaya Prasad Reddy, Partner of M/s Avhni Abode,** No. 35, Akshyah, 4th Floor, 3rd Cross, 5th Main, BOB Colony, JP Nagar, Bangalore -560078. **Also at Mr. K Vijaya Prasad Reddy,** Eternity Elite, Flat No. 202, 1st Cross, First Floor, OAKS Layout, J P Nagar, 7th Phase, Near Holy Mother School, Hemagiri Apartment, Bangalore -560078. **(3) Mrs. Katuri C V, Partner of M/s Avhni Abode,** No. 35, Akshyah, 4th Floor, 3rd Cross,	Residential Flat No. 202 First Floor in the Building "ETERNITY ELITE", measuring Super Built up Area of 1350 Sq.F along with one car parking, situated in Sy.No. 33 & 34, House List No.84, New BBMP Khata No. 42/40/39/33/34, Ward No. 187, Old BBMP Katha No. K.T.R/180/2009-10, Sl.No. 465,93,33 and 34, Old Gramatana Katha No. 93, situated at Puttenahallli Village, Uttarahalli Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk, Bangalore and undivided share of 284 Sqft and bounded by (Property) : East : Property No. 35, West : Property No. 32, North : Road, South : Property Nos. 25 & 26-in B Block. Boundaries(Flat) : East by : Flat No. 201, West by : Set Back, North : Road, South : Set Back.	**Rs. 1,24,07,316.86 (Rupees One Crore Twenty four Lakhs Seven Thousand Three Hundred Sixteen and eighty Six Paisa only) as on 31/03/2023**	**Rs. 47,60,000/- (Rupees Forty Seven Lakhs Sixty Thousand only)**	**Rs. 4,76,000/- (Rupees Four Lakhs Seventy Six Thousand only)**
3	5th Main, BOB Colony, JP Nagar, Bangalore -560078. **Also at Mrs. Katuri C V,** Flat No. 202, 1st Cross, First Floor, OAKS Layout, J P Nagar, 7th Phase, Near Holy Mother School, Hemagiri Apartment, Bangalore -560078. **(4) M/s Eternity Structures Pvt Ltd,** No. 126 (17), Doss Capital, 2nd Floor, 33rd Cross, 11th Main, 4th Block, Jayanagar, Bangalore -560011. **(5) Mr. K Vijaya Prasad Reddy, Director of M/s Eternity Structures Pvt Ltd,** Flat No. 202, 1st Cross, First Floor, OAKS Layout, J P Nagar, 7th Phase, Near Holy Mother School, Hemagiri Apartment, Bangalore -560078. **(6) Mrs. Katuri C V,** Director of M/s Eternity Structures Pvt Ltd, Flat No. 202, 1st Cross, First Floor, OAKS Layout, J P Nagar, 7th Phase, Near Holy Mother School, Hemagiri Apartment, Bangalore -560078.	Residential Flat No. 402 Third Floor in the Building "ETERNITY ELITE", measuring Super Built up Area of 1350 Sq.F along with one car parking, situated in Sy.No. 33 & 34, House List No.84, New BBMP Khata No. 42/40/39/33/34, Ward No. 187, Old BBMP Katha No. K.T.R/180/2009-10, Sl.No. 465,93,33 and 34, Old Gramatana Katha No. 93, situated at Puttenahallli Village, Uttarahalli Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk, Bangalore and undivided share of 284 Sqft and bounded by (Property) : East : Property No. 35, West : Property No. 32, North : Road, South : Property Nos. 25 & 26-in B Block. Boundaries(Flat) : East by : Flat No. 401, West by : Set Back, North : Road, South : Set Back.		**Rs. 47,60,000/- (Rupees Forty Seven Lakhs Sixty Thousand only)**	**Rs. 4,76,000/- (Rupees Four Lakhs Seventy Six Thousand only)**
4	**1) Mr. Basavaraja R,** Flat no C-3, 2nd floor, Aashraya enclave, Nagondanahalli village, Whitefield, K.R. Puram Hobli, Bangalore-560066. **And also at** : #4, 1st floor, 2nd building, 6th cross, Garudacharpalya, Mahadevapura Post, Bangalore- 560048. **2) Mrs. Asha D,** W/o Mr. Basavaraja R, Flat no. C-3, 2nd floor, Aashraya enclave, Nagondanahalli village, Whitefield, K.R. Puram Hobli, Bangalore- 560066. **And also at:** #4, 1st floor, 2nd building, 6th cross, Garudacharpalya, Mahadevapura Post, Bangalore- 560048	**Schedule A Property**: All that piece and parcel of Residentially coverted land bearing sy no 129, measuring 18 Guntas situated at Nagondanahalli village, Krishnarajapuram Hobli, Bangalore East Taluk, Bangalore, with all rights appurtenances whatsoever hereunder or underneath or above the surface, and bounded on the: East by: property belonging to Ramesh and Manjunath, West by: remaining portion of the land belonging to H Suresh, North by: Government Channel, South by: Road. **Schedule B Property:** 463 sq ft undivided interest in the immovable property mentioned in Schedule A above. **Schedule C Property:** Flat bearing no C-3 in second floor, measuring 1325 sq ft super built up area, containing Three bed rooms, with RCC Roofing, Vitrified Tiles flooring, together with one covered car parking space, including proportionate share in common areas such as Passages, Lobbies, staircase and lifts, in the proposed multi-storeyed residential building constructed over schedule A property known as "Aashraya Enclave"	**Rs. 37,82,831.07/- (Rupees Thirty seven lakhs eighty two thousands eight hundred thirty one and seven paisa only) as on 31/03/2023**	**Rs. 39,10,000/- (Rupees Thirty nine lakhs ten thousands only)**	**Rs. 3,91,000/- (Rupees Three lakhs ninety one thousands only)**
5	**1) Yamuna M S** W/o Renukumar, **Communication Address:** No. 55 1st Floor Giridhama layout, 5th main BEML 3rd stage Rajarajeshwari Nagar, Bangalore 560098. **Permanent Address:** No 22, Gottigere Extn 2nd Stage BEML layout, Rajarajeshwari Nagar, Bangalore 560098. **2) Chinmayi Enterprises,** Shop no 3/2, 1&2 Main Road, 80 feet Road, SBM Colony, Near Prashanth Hospital, BSK 1st Stage, Bangalore 560050. **3) Renu Kumar,** No 55, 5th main, BEML 3rd Stage, Giridhama layout, Rajarajeshwari Nagar, Bangalore 560098. **Permanent Address**: No 22, Gottigere Extn 2nd Stage BEML layout, Rajarajeshwari Nagar, Bangalore 560098.	All the piece parcel of immovable vacant site No. 61/2, old no. 66/2, village Khata no. 66/2/61/2 present BBMP Khata no. 348/66/2/61/2 situated at Halagavaderahalli Village, Kengeri hobli, Bangalore South Taluk Presently under BBMP Bangalore measuring East to West 30 feet, North to South 40 feet total measuring 1200 sqft and bounded by: East By : Property no 61/1, West By: Property no 61/3, North By: Road, South By: Property no. 62/1.	**Rs. 52,38,273.02 (Rupees Fifty two lakhs thirty eight thousand two hundred seventy three and two paisa only) as on 31/03/2023**	**Rs. 60,00,000/- (Rupees Sixty lakhs only)**	**Rs. 6,00,000/- (Rupees Six lakhs only)**
6	**M/s Dhruv Life Sciences Pvt. Ltd.,** 695 1st floor, 9th A main, Indiranagar 1st stage, Bangalore 560038. Karnataka. **Mr. Srivardhan Reddy Vanipenta (Guarantor)** S/o Narasa Reddy, Plot no. 15 Phase 3, Road no. 71 Jublee Hills, Hyderabad 500033. **Mr. Harshvardhan Reddy Vanipenta (Guarantor)** S/o Narasa Reddy, Flat no. 501 4th floor Spadix Apartment, Property no. 39 Royal Orchid Hotel Road, Muniyellapppa Garden, Kodilhalli, Off: old airport road, Bangalore 560008. **Mr. Srinivas Penmitsa (Guarantor),** S/o Vishwanandha Raju, House no. 2/3 /AC/32, Aparna Country Behind Mathrusree, Miyapur, Hyderabad 500049.	**Schedule A Property** : All that piece and parcel of immovable property bearing Municipal No. 39, situated at Muniyellappa Garden, Kodihalli Bangalore, PID No. 73-50-39, measuring East to west 63 feet and North to South 115 feet, totally measuring about 7245 sq.ft. and bounded by: East by: Private Property belonging to Sri Chinnamma, West by: Private Property belonging to Sri Krishnappa, North by: Property belonging to Corporation, South by: Road & remaining portion of the vendor. **Schedule B Property:** All that piece and parcel of immovable property being Flat No. 501, on the fourth floor, of the building known as "SPADIX" bearing bifurcated Khata No. 39/24, Constructed on property bearing Municipal No. 39, situated at Muniyellappa Garden, Kodihalli, Bangalore (Schedule A Property), Consisting of hall, dining room, pooja room, four bedrooms, Attached bathrooms, toilets, with the super built area of 3996 sq.ft., together with 991/7245 share of undivided right, title and interest. Property belongs to Mr.Harashavardhan Reddy Vanipenta (Guarantor).	**Rs. 8,67,71,064.91 (Rupees Eight Crore Sixty Seven Lakhs Seventy One Thousand Sixty Four and Ninety One Paisa Only as on 31/03/2023**	**Rs. 2,45,38,000/- (Rupees Two Crore Forty Five Lakhs Thirty Eight Thousand only)**	**Rs. 24,53,800/- (Rupees Twenty Four Lakhs Fifty Three Thousand Eight Hundred Only)**
7	**1) Mr Rajendran R,** No 500, 15th cross, 2nd stage, Indiranagar, Bangalore-560038. **Also at:** Mr Rajendran R, Support Executive, M/s Motorola, No 66, Baghmane Tech park, CV Raman nagar, Bangalore- 560093. **Also at:** Mr Rajendran R, No.28, Property No.38, Katha No.318, Mallasndra Village, Yeshwanthapura Hobli, Bangalore North Taluk, Bangalore. **2) Mrs P Vasumathy** W/o Mr Rajendran R, No 500, 15th cross, 2nd stage, Indiranagar, Bangalore-560038. **Guarantor: Mrs Girija Devi B** W/o Siddagangaiah, no 241, 10th main, 7th cross, Hanumanth Nagar, Bangalore.	All that piece and parcel of the residential property bearing middle portion of Site No 38, Assessment No.59, Khatha No.318, situated at Mallasandra village, Yeshwanthpur Hobli, Bangalore North Taluk, Bangalore, earlier comes under the a administrative jurisdiction of Dasarahalli Nagarasabe, Bangalore now comes under BBMP Dasarahalli Range, Bangalore, Ward No.05, measuring East to West (22+23)/2 ft, and North to south (35+35)/2 ft measuring 787.5 sq ft, and building constructed groung floor 4 ½ Square and 1st floor 4 ½ square constructed with mud with bricks, doors and windows jungle wood and redoxid flooring, and bounded on: East : remaining portion of the same property, West: property no 37, North: Road, South Road.	**Rs. 1,22,04,967.93 (Rupees One crore twenty two lakhs four thousand nine hundred sixty seven and ninety three paisa only) as on 31/03/2023**	**Rs. 33,03,000/- (Rupees Thirty three lakhs and three thousand only)**	**Rs. 3,30,300/- (Rupees Three lakhs thirty thousand three hundred only)**
8	**1) Mr. Richard Kumar E,** No. 47, Ground Floor, Sri Venkateshwara Nilaya, 2nd cross, Head master layout, Chandapura, Anekal Taluk,Bangalore 560099. **2) Mr. Jai Prakash,** No. 47, Ground Floor, Sri Venkateshwara Nilaya, 2nd cross, Head master layout, Chandapura, Anekal Taluk, Bangalore 560099.	**Schedule- A Property:** All the piece and parcel of Residential Converted Vacant Site bearing No.112,Present village panchayath property No.1502001032002011 71/240/112 Dtd 30.03.2015, Site bearing No.113,present village panchayath property No.1502001032002011 72/240/113, Dtd 30.03.2015 formed in BMRDA approved layout, situated at " CELEBRITY LAKE VIEW" CARVED out in Survey Nos 56,72,73/2,74/1 & 74/2 of Rajapura Village, Jigani Hobli, Anekal Taluk, Bangalore District measuring East to West : 65 Feet and North to South : 80 Feet in all measuring 5200 Sq Ft and bounded on : East By: Site No.120 & 121, West By : 40.0 Feet Road, North By: 114, South By : 111. **Schedule-B Property**: 231 Sq Ft of undivided share, right, title and interest in the Schedule A property. **Schedule-C Property**: Double bed Rooms (Two Bed Rooms Flat) Residential Flat at MIYAS GREEN RESIDENCY bearing Flat No.304,on the Third floor and measuring total super built area of 1145 Sq Ft constructed on schedule-A property consisting of one living, one Kitchen, one Dining, Two Bed Rooms, One Toilet, Two Balcony, One Utility and Inetrnal passage, including One Covered car Parking slot at stilt floor and inclusive of proportionate share in the common areas along with all rights, interest and privileges theron and bounded on the : East By : Set back, West By : Flat No.303, North By : Lift/Staircase, South By: Set back.	**Rs. 41,76,917.80/- (Rupees Fourty one lakh seventy six thousand nine hundred seventeen and eighty paisa only) as on 31/03/2023**	**Rs. 26,43,000/- (Rupees Twenty six lakh forty three thousand only)**	**Rs. 2,64,300/- (Rupees Two lakhs sixty four thousand three hundred only)**
9	**M/s Yash Industries,** No.71, Gollarahatti, Tulasinagar, Hosahalli, Magadi Main Road, Bangalore -560091. **Mr. Pankaj Y Hibare,** No. 40/3, Near Gopi School, Kamakshipalya New Layout, Bangalore -560079. **Mrs. Swati Mohanrao Malvadkar,** No. 40/3, Near Gopi School, Kamakshipalya New Layout, Bangalore -560079.	All that piece and parcel of Vacant site bearing no. 08 formed in Land bearing Survey No. 83/5 (Old Sy.No. 83/1), duly converted from Agricultural to Non Agricultural Residential purpose, vide Conversion order no. ALN (NK) 56/2013-14, Dated 18/09/2013, situated at Arishinkunte Village, Kasaba Hobli, Nelamangala Taluk, Bangalore Rural District, measuring East to West: 30 Feet and North to South: 40' Feet, in all measuring 1200 Square feet and bounded as follows: East by : Private property, West by : Road, North by : Site No. 07, South by Site No. 09.	**Rs. 68,08,161.59 (Rupees Sixty Eight Lakhs Eight Thousand One Hundred Sixty One and Fifty Nine Paisa Only) as on 31/03/2023**	**Rs. 32,40,000/- (Rupees Thirty Two Lakhs Forty Thousand Only)**	**Rs. 3,24,000/- (Rupees Three Lakhs Twenty Four Thousand only)**
10	**M/s Yash Industries,** No.71, Gollarahatti, Tulasinagar, Hosahalli, Magadi Main Road, Bangalore -560091. **Mr. Pankaj Y Hibare,** No. 40/3, Near Gopi School, Kamakshipalya New Layout, Bangalore - 560079. **Mrs. Swati Mohanrao Malvadkar,** No. 40/3, Near Gopi School, Kamakshipalya New Layout, Bangalore - 560079.	All that piece and parcel of Vacant site bearing no. 15 formed in Land bearing Survey No. 83/5 (Old Sy.No. 83/1), duly converted from Agricultural to Non Agricultural Residential purpose, vide Conversion order no. ALN (NK) 56/2013-14, Dated 18/09/2013, situated at Arishinkunte Village, Kasaba Hobli, Nelamangala Taluk, Bangalore Rural District, measuring East to West: 33' Feet and North to South: 40' Feet, in all measuring 1320 Square feet and bounded as follows: East by : Road, West by : Private property, North by : Site No. 14, South by Site No. 16.	**Rs. 68,08,161.59 (Rupees Sixty Eight Lakhs Eight Thousand One Hundred Sixty One and Fifty Nine Paisa Only) as on 31/03/2023**	**Rs. 35,64,000/- (Rupees Thirty Five Lakhs Sixty Four Thousand only)**	**Rs. 3,56,400/- (Rupees Three Lakhs Fifty Six Thousand Four Hundred only)**
11	**M/s Yash Industries,** No.71, Gollarahatti, Tulasinagar, Hosahalli, Magadi Main Road, Bangalore -560091. **Mr. Pankaj Y Hibare,** No. 40/3, Near Gopi School, Kamakshipalya New Layout, Bangalore - 560079. **Mrs. Swati Mohanrao Malvadkar,** No. 40/3, Near Gopi School, Kamakshipalya New Layout, Bangalore - 560079.	All that piece and parcel of Vacant site bearing no. 14 formed in Land bearing Survey No. 83/5 (Old Sy.No. 83/1), duly converted from Agricultural to Non Agricultural Residential purpose, vide Conversion order no. ALN (NK) 56/2013-14, Dated 18/09/2013, situated at Arishinkunte Village, Kasaba Hobli, Nelamangala Taluk, Bangalore Rural District, measuring East to West: Northern Side 35' Feet, Southern Side 33' Feet and North to South: 40' Feet, in all measuring 1360 Square feet and bounded as follows: East by : Road, West by : Private property, North by : Site No. 13, South by Site No. 15.	**Rs. 68,08,161.59 (Rupees Sixty Eight Lakhs Eight Thousand One Hundred Sixty One and Fifty Nine Paisa Only) as on 31/03/2023**	**Rs. 35,64,000/- (Rupees Thirty Five Lakhs Sixty Four Thousand only)**	**Rs. 3,56,400/- (Rupees Three Lakhs Fifty Six Thousand Four Hundred only)**

The above said properties will be sold by "Online". Online E-Auction will be held through web portal/website **www.mstcecommerce.com** on the date and time mentioned above with unlimited extension of 10 minutes. The intending bidders / purchasers required to register through **https://www.mstcecommerce.com/auctionhome/ibapi/index.jsp** by using their mobile number and valid email:id. They are further required to upload KYC documents and Bank Details. The intended bidder may contact the **Branch Manager of Union Bank of India. Asset Recovery Branch, Contact No. 8369255990, 9611045818** for inspection of property and also visit the above mentioned website for ascertaining the details of auction.

STATUTORY 15 DAYS SALE NOTICE UNDER Rule 8(6) Rule 9(1) OF STATUTORY INTEREST (ENFORCEMENT) RULES, 2002

This may also be treated as notice u/s 8(6) Rule 9(1) of Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 to the Borrowers and Guarantors of the said loan about the holding of E-Auction Sale on the above mentioned date.

Place: Bengaluru
Date : 21.04.2023

Sd/- Authorised Officer
Union Bank of India.

Seer of Adichunchanagiri Mutt Dr Nirmalanandanatha Mahaswamiji visited Manipal Hospital on Sunday and enquired about the health of JDS leader HD Kumaraswamy. The former CM was admitted to the hospital on Saturday after he complained of exhaustion and fever. JDS sources said the ex-CM still kept in touch with party leaders on the ground

HIS COUNTER

RSS forces sent BSY to jail: Siddu

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

TRYING to control the damage, All-India Congress Committee (AICC) general secretary, Karnataka in-charge, Randeep Singh Surjewala said CLP leader Siddaramaiah meant Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai is corrupt as he led a government that indulged in 40 per cent commission. "Even BJP Haveri MLA Nehru Olekar had said that Bommai is corrupt and Siddaramaiah only reiterated it," he said.

Later in the day, Siddaramaiah released a statement, claiming that BJP's Lingayat leaders are unaware of the RSS' 'Vighnasantoshis' (destructive forces) conspiracy to eliminate them politically. Instead, they spend their time accusing Congress of being anti-Lingayat, he added.

Siddaramaiah said it was not Congress, but RSS forces that sent Lingayat leader and former chief minister BS Yediyurappa to jail and ended the political careers of community leaders Jagdish Shettar, Laxman Savadi, Sogadu Shivanna, Sanjay Patil and others. He alleged the same RSS forces coerced Lingayat leader V Somanna into contesting from the Varuna constituency, though he does not have a chance of winning.

RAHUL PLAYS LINGAYAT CARD, SAYS BJP NETAS DON'T FOLLOW BASAVANNA'S PRINCIPLES

'While Congress believes in uniting society, BJP-RSS divide nation on religious lines'

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Vijayapura

ACCUSING the BJP leaders of only speaking about Lord Basaveshwara in their speeches and not following his ideologies, senior Congress leader Rahul Gandhi has said that the saffron party was completely working against the ideology of the social reformer.

Addressing a mega rally after holding a road show on the occasion of Basava Jayanti in Vijayapura on Sunday, the former MP said that while the Congress believed in the principles and ideology of Basavanna which is uniting the society, the BJP and the RSS believed in dividing the nation on religious lines. Stating that one of the prominent principles of Basavanna was to divide the nation's wealth among the needy, the former Congress president said that the BJP is distributing the nation's wealth to only a few corporate giants such as Adani.

"I have tried to read and learn about Basaveshwara... but I found nowhere that he ever said that national wealth should go to only a few rich people. But BJP is doing so by handing over public sector units to Adani," the Congress leader said.

Referring to the allegation of BJP government taking 40% commission in clearing the bills of the contractors, Rahul said Basavanna nowhere said that public money should be looted in the form of commission.

Former Congress MP Rahul Gandhi offers prayers at the Sangamanatha temple in Kudalasangama, Bagalkot district, on Sunday | EXPRESS

"BJP is running the most corrupt government in the country. Prime Minister Narendra Modi says in his speeches that he is against corruption, but in reality he is not. Which is why he has not replied to the letter of the contractors association which has alleged that the BJP government is taking 40% commission. Modi has not replied to the letter till date and I know he will never reply," he charged.

Claiming that the Congress has given assurances to the people by getting inspired from Basavanna's ideologies, Rahul said that the guarantees of the Congress for the people of Karnataka are based on the principles of equality and helping the needy.

Alleging that this 40% commission money is being used by the BJP to purchase the MLAs and toppling the Congress government, he said that the BJP will not be successful in Karnataka after the assembly polls.

"BJP will not purchase our MLAs because Congress will be forming the government after winning 150 seats. The BJP which is taking 40% commission will get only 40 seats in the upcoming polls," he added.

Accusing the government of not making the caste census report public, Rahul said that only caste census can tell the exact number of population of different communities. "I am challenging Modi to make the census public. We will first put pressure on the Modi government to make it public... if he fails to do so, then we will do it when we will come to power," he added. The Congress leader also demanded that the Modi government remove the cap of 50% on reservation and give quota based on the population of each community.

Earlier in the day, Rahul paid tribute to Lord Basaveshwara at Kudalasangama in Bagalkot district. He said Basavanna rose up against caste discrimination, exploitation, atrocities and superstition during his times and questioned the evil practices. The 12th century reformer became a guiding light to the entire nation by taking the path of truth, Rahul said.

"Lord Basaveshwara introduced the path of democracy to India and the world. And this is the truth that cannot be destroyed. Later, the democratic system and Parliament took shape in India," he added.

"Basavanna did not leave the path of truth throughout his life and spoke out truth without any fear. It is not easy to speak the truth before society. Despite threats Basavanna did not deviate from the path of truth and questioned bad practices in the society, so he is respected till today," he added.

Former Congress MP Rahul Gandhi in conversation with former chief minister Jagadish Shettar in Hubballi on Sunday

Shettar meets Rahul for 1st time after joining Congress

AMIT S UPADHYE @Hubballi

CONGRESS leader Rahul Gandhi, who is on a two-day tour of poll-bound Karnataka, landed in Hubballi on Sunday. He was welcomed at the airport by former chief minister Jagadish Shettar, who recently quit the BJP to join the Congress. The duo held a meeting before Rahul left for Vijayapura district to attend election rallies.

According to informed Congress sources, Rahul and Shettar discussed several issues related to the Lingayat community and also the highlights of BJP's poll planning in Karnataka. "Shettar requested Rahul to restrain Congress leaders from making statements against Lingayat leaders. Rahul was keen to know about the importance of the Lingayat community and their role in election politics. Congress has nominated Lingayats in over 50 seats and Rahul is likely to campaign in Hubballi for Shettar," said a Congress leader from Hubballi.

Meanwhile, Shettar has dismissed the impact of the RSS team which is said to be camping in Hubballi to campaign against him. "The team will not be familiar with the local conditions and by the time they comprehend it, the elections will be over," he said.

Shettar expressed confidence in winning the Hubballi-Dharwad Central seat. "Negative campaigning that is being carried out against me on various platforms will have no impact on poll results. Candidate's good work will influence the outcome," he added.

Meanwhile, Rahul will continue his poll campaign in Belagavi, Gadag and Haveri districts on Monday. After finishing an interactive session with farmers in Ramdurg of Belagavi district, the former MP will interact with youth at Gadag town on Monday. In this Yuva Samvada, 2,000 youngsters, including new voters, will interact with the Congress leader.

Rahul will leave for Delhi after addressing a public rally at Hangal in Haveri district.

'Pained' by Siddu's remark: Bommai

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Bengaluru

CHIEF Minister Basavaraj Bommai said that he is pained by former chief minister Siddaramaiah's 'corrupt Lingayat CM' remark. "Siddaramaiah is a senior leader and has served as the CM. I did not expect a statement like this from him that has shaken the souls of Lingayats. Terming the whole community as corrupt is unacceptable. His statement has pained me," Bommai told reporters after paying tribute to Lord Basaveshwara at Basaveshwara Circle on Basava Jayanti here on Sunday.

"Karnataka has seen CMs and ministers from different communities like Lingayats, Vokkaligas and SC/STs. If Siddaramaiah had any problems with the functioning of the CMs or ministers, he should have targeted the individuals and not their entire community," Bommai said.

Bommai said that Siddaramaiah's statement reflects the culture of Congress where its former president Rahul Gandhi remarked about the Modi surname and added that people will reply to the party in the elections. "On the occasion of Basava Jayanti, we are starting the election campaign from Bengaluru that will go up to Kadur. We will tour the entire state. I am confident that people will bless us by electing BJP that is following the path of truth, justice and equality, the principles of Basavanna" he said.

Roadshow from Yelahanka

CM Bommai launched his roadshow ahead of the Assembly polls from the Yelahanka Assembly constituency in Bengaluru on Sunday after garlanding the statue of 12th century philosopher Basavanna on Basava Jayanti day.

Bommai, trying to get into the big shoes of his predecessor BS Yediyurappa, with the party high command projecting him as the face of the party to lead the campaigning, held the roadshow at Doddaballapur, Nelamangala and Tumakuru. He reiterated the statements of party senior leaders that Karnataka should be free of Congress and warned the electorate that voting for JDS amounts to voting for Congress.

He said Doddaballapur will be developed and a satellite town will be established that will open up education and employment opportunities. He said the BJP government aims to provide good governance to all communities equally, protect the poor and downtrodden, and follow the principles of Basavanna and Dr BR Ambedkar.

Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai offers floral tributes to social reformer Basavanna to mark Basava Jayanti, on the premises of Vidhana Soudha on Sunday | NAGARAJA GADEKAL

CPI to back Cong in 215 seats, Darshan in Melukote

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Bengaluru

THE Communit Party of India (CPI), which has fielded candidates in seven Assembly constituencies in Karnataka, has decided to back the Congress in 215 seats.

CPI has fielded candidates in Sira, Aland, Jewargi, Kudligi, Kolar Gold Fields, Madikeri and Mudigere. It will support the Raitha Sangha candidate Darshan Puttannaiah in Melukote where the Congress has also not fielded its candidate.

Both CPI and Congress leaders announced the decision at the Karantaka Pradesh Congress Committee (KPCC) office here on Sunday. "Our aim is to form a secular democratic left front and to defeat the BJP. We had approached the KPCC president in this regard and made a decision so that the state will get a stable government," said CPI secretary Saathi Sundaresh.

AICC general secretary Karnataka in-charge Randeep Singh Surjewala said that the CPI has a history of fighting for social justice, protection of the rights of the poor and oppressed classes, rights of the workers and the rights of the middle class. "Although Congress and CPI differ ideologically on many issues, our goal is the same....," he said.

All need to support dairy farmers: Nirmala

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

AFTER this, subsequent governments of Congress and Janata Dal (Secular) also gave additional amounts to farmers. Support to milk farmers should be continued. Strengthening Nandini and strengthening dairy farmers of Karnataka has never been in question," she said.

Veering on to financial issues, she said, "There are apps that promise many things, many of which are Ponzi schemes. The Reserve Bank of India and all other relevant departments are clamping down on them like never before so that we don't have those Ponzi apps taking away people's hard-earned money. Social and financial influencers are out there, but a very strong sense of caution is required," she warned.

Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman during an interaction event in Bengaluru on Sunday | NAGARAJA GADEKAL

Nirmala faces ire of citizens

Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman faced the ire of citizens on Sunday over her interactive session as they alleged that she and the organisers did not take any questions directly from them.

As per schedule, she was to participate in the interactive session organised by the Thinkers Forum at RV Dental College in the City. While the session was advertised as interactive, questions had been collected beforehand and screened before the minister. The most commonly asked questions were read out to the minister by a moderator. Over 600 questions were sent in advance to the organisers of the event by Bengalureans.

However, citizens present at the session were not given the opportunity to interact with the minister directly, drawing their criticism. Many netizens also took to social media to criticise the organisers and the minister.

Ramya back after hiatus, to campaign in Mandya

BANSY KALAPPA
@ Bengaluru

FORMER Lok Sabha Member of Parliament from Mandya and actor **Ramya aka Divya Spandana** will be campaigning for Congress candidates in Mandya assembly segments, where the Congress had lost all seats to the JDS in 2018. The regional party had come up trumps in all seven assembly segments.

Ramya, who was on a sabbatical, has returned to strengthen the Congress campaign over the next few weeks in Mandya and adjoining areas.

Looking at the 2018 performance, the Congress had lost Malavalli to the Janata Dal (Secular) by nearly 28,000 votes, Maddur by about 55,000 votes, Srirangapatna by 43,000 votes, Nagamangala by about 47,000 votes and KR Pet by about 17,000 votes. The Congress will have a tough task, but in KR Nagar, where it lost by a mere 1,800 votes, there is a lot of expectation that some hard work will yield results. The Congress will be backing Sarvodaya Karnataka Party, and needs to increase vote share by about 23,000 votes.

"Ramya is our star campaigner. The party unit will decide where she will campaign. Rahul Gandhi and other senior leaders are also expected to campaign in important districts," Congress working president Saleem Ahmed said.

Former minister B Somashekar, who had represented Malavalli four times on a Janata Party and Janata Dal tickets, and who joined the Congress, said, "I am confident of the Congress doing well in Malavalli, Srirangapatna, Nagamangala, Maddur and am hopeful of good results in KR Pet and Melukote. Janata Dal (Secular) numbers are expected to reduce. It is good that Ramya will be campaigning in Mandya."

Meanwhile, Mandya Member of Parliament-actor Sumalatha Ambareesh, who has acted in over 200 films, is expected to campaign for the BJP with the 'Sandalwood queen'.

POLL FEVER HOTS UP

Nature plays big role, keeps campaigning low-key in Hanur

K SHIVA KUMAR
@ Mysuru

IT is nature that has determined campaigning in the Hanur Assembly constituency, where a lot of the villages are on forest fringes. Apart from the scorching sun, it is the movement of wild animals during evenings that has kept campaigning low key ahead of the Assembly elections.

Candidates and leaders are out seeking votes only till 12 noon as the region becomes extremely hot beyond that point. In the evenings, it is the constant movement of elephants, leopards and wild boas that keep leaders indoors.

Hanur, the taluk headquarters of Chamarajanagar district, is surrounded by hills and has over 200 villages on the fringes of thick forests. Some of the villages that are close to the thicket are Ramapura, Lokkanahalli, Bylore, Odeyarpalya, Martahalli, Ajjipura, Bandalli, , Mee Yum and Poonacha.

Till a few years ago, prominent political leaders were scared to visit the area as it was the favourite hunting ground of notorious forest brigand Veerappan. The threat of abduction by the outlaw had kept candidates and prominent leaders away from these villages that were often visited by him.

The area has remained backward and has not seen much development. "Bad roads and connectivity are major issues that prevent leaders from campaigning here. Driving our vehicles on these roads costs us Rs 2,000-4000 in repairs. This year, campaigning is not happening in full scale and leaders too are not doling out assurances to voters," said Mutthu, an auto driver in Odakehalli village near Male Mahadeshwara Hills.

Another voter Cheluva said the forest has dried up and the temperature is high, keeping people indoors. Frequent sightings of elephants, leopards and wild boars in evenings too have stopped political leaders from full-fledged campaigning, he said.

Mani, a local leader from Martahalli, said they are in touch with party workers and panchayat members over phone and have requested them to take care of campaigning as many top leaders have not visited these villages because of the rising temperature. Campaigning, however, will pick up if the area receives showers that will fill water holes, preventing wild animals from venturing out of forests, he added.

Union Minister for Ports, Shipping and Waterways Sarbananda Sonowal on Sunday said talks are on between India and Russia to inaugurate the Chennai-Vladivostok Maritime Corridor to further the special relationship between the two countries and unlock the huge trade potential

BJP'S TRICKY LINGAYAT GAMEPLAN

Strategy to cut tall community leaders to size could backfire, or leave party unscathed

Thousands of Panchamali Lingayats stage a protest seeking 2A reservation in Belagavi in December 2022

NAUSHAD BIJAPUR @ Belagavi:

THE powerful Lingayat community in Karnataka, which forms a chunky 20 per cent of the state's total population, has been steadfastly rallying behind the ruling BJP for over two decades. The meteoric rise of the saffron party in the state can be attributed to B S Yediyurappa, who has emerged as the undisputed and tallest leader of the dominant Lingayat community. The BJP may not have achieved a majority, but came to power in the state with the strong support of Lingayats, only because of Yediyurappa.

With Yediyurappa signing off from electoral politics, and his eventual retirement from the BJP, it is interesting to see whether the Lingayat community would continue its unwavering support to the BJP in the upcoming elections. After Lingayats were upset with the way Yediyurappa had to step down as chief minister under pressure from the BJP leadership, the party was tentatively able to consolidate its hold by installing Basavaraj Bommai of the same community as chief minister, and taking people into confidence.

The BJP was tactful in winning the hearts of Lingayats by initiating some damage-control measures. However, with elections round the corner, the BJP is once again in the eye of a storm for denying election tickets to several Lingayat leaders, mainly former CM Jagadish Shettar and former deputy CM Laxman Savadi.

Despite the BJP trying to turn the denial of tickets to Shettar and Savadi as the party's strategy to introduce new faces, sections of political parties and leaders called it "an attempt by the BJP to finish off all its potential Lingayat leaders in Karnataka to make way for a non-Lingayat chief minister".

Several top leaders from the Lingayat community who have been denied tickets include sitting Ramdurg MLA Mahadevappa Yadwad, leaders from Badami MK Pattanshetty and Mahantesh Mamadapur, and former minister Appu Pattanshetty. Irrespective of their age, not only are most of them still capable of winning the May 10 election, but also have the ability to handle top positions in the party and government.

To avoid a backlash and to take Lingayats into confidence, the party has allotted 67 tickets to community leaders, compared to 41 tickets issued by the JDS and 37 by the Congress, in the coming polls. However, political experts feel the BJP's attempt to promote second-rung Lingayat leaders by getting rid of top leaders may impact the party's electoral prospects.

Many political strategists say it will be interesting to see how the BJP fares without Yediyurappa and other Lingayat leaders in the forefront. Some predict the strategy could backfire, while others say it may not have any impact on electoral fortunes.

Impact in Kittur, Kalyan Karnataka

Noted writer and political commentator Basavaraj Itnal says the continued neglect of Lingayats by the BJP will have its impact in Kittur Karnataka and Kalyan Karnataka, where 90 assembly seats are at stake. "We tend to believe that Lingayats are unwaveringly behind the BJP, given its improved performance in the state. But on the ground, the numbers tell a different story. As far as the 2018 election is concerned, seat share may be dramatically in favour of the BJP, and not vote share. The difference in vote share between the Congress and BJP was around 4 per cent in the last polls. The political scenario will change drastically even if there is 1 or 2 per cent swing in vote share, and the BJP may end up losing about 30 to 40 seats."

Given the way BJP is unwilling to announce its CM candidate ahead of the May 10 election, it is obvious that the party will not make a Lingayat as CM, said Itnal, adding that the BJP wants to shrug off the "Lingayat strongman control". When Yediyurappa formed the KJP, the BJP lost. In 2018, when the issue of giving reservation to Lingayats was drummed up by the Congress ahead of assembly elections, the BJP was forced to promote Yediyurappa to counter the opposition. However, the BJP did not throw its weight behind Yediyurappa, and the Congress-JDS formed a coalition government. It was only due to Yediyurappa's efforts that the BJP government came to power later, observed Itnal.

The sidelining of Lingayat leaders like Yediyurappa, Shettar, Savadi and many others will deal a big blow to the BJP, says noted writer and litterateur Ramjan Darga. "Indian democracy is based on the caste system and personality cult. In Kannada, we can say 'Jati Prabhutva' dominates our democratic system and not 'Praja Prabhutva'. In such a democratic set-up, voters prefer leaders based on their contribution to their respective castes, and the individual help they received from them. Voters are not bothered about the contributions of a leader towards society," he said.

Given the recent developments in the Karnataka BJP, the top party leadership is bent on finishing off all potential Lingayat leaders in the state, knowing well that second-rung Lingayat leaders will automatically become their (BJP) slaves. "The BJP leadership does not want Lingayats as competitors, this is the reality. But they have failed in their attempts as Lingayats have become aware of their political agenda," observed Darga.

Basically, Lingayats have been supporting BJP not because of its ideology but due to their "opportunism". They looked at the Congress as a party of minorities, Dalits and backward classes, and JDS as a party of Vokkaligas, so they rallied behind the BJP. Second-grade leaders who know that mainstream Lingayat leaders are being ignored and have no future in the party, are trying to take control of the community by abusing these leaders.

Won't affect polls: Seer

Siddarama Swamy of Gadag Tontadarya Mutt, who is also a Lingayat scholar, says the Lingayat factor or switching of sides by BJP's Lingayat leaders will not impact the coming polls. 'Aya Ram, Gaya Ram' type of leaders who switch parties during elections will not make any impact. Such leaders change sides only for political gain, he said.

Commenting on the alleged neglect of Shettar and Savadi by the BJP, the seer said, "We can't say the BJP neglected them. The party allotted tickets to many Lingayats, and as a political party, BJP will have its own set of principles and rules which it will follow."

He said he had no objections to BJP leaders, but said the principles of the BJP are "anti-Lingayat". "BJP wants to have one religion and one nation, and claim there is no scope for other religions. The BJP's ideologies and principles are contrary to the country's unity in diversity, where people of all faiths are living peacefully. The Constitution will have no value if the concept of 'one nation, one religion' exists," he added.

Defending the BJP's strategy to deny tickets to seniors, he said the chief minister's post should be given to leaders based on their ability and capacity, and not based on religion or caste. The decision on who should become CM should be left to the elected MLAs.

Contrasting ideologies

Terming the ideologies of BJP and Lingayats as "totally contrasting", renowned playwright and litterateur Prof D S Chougale said "leaders of the community who are in the BJP are Lingayats merely by caste, but follow the ideology of the BJP. For such leaders, power is more important than their religion".

Besides neglecting the able Lingayat leaders in the party, the BJP leadership kept Yediyurappa out of the committee which shortlisted candidates for the May 10 election. The party denied tickets to senior Lingayat leaders and gave them to young leaders to make them fall in line. But Lingayats are now understanding the divide-and-rule agenda of the BJP, he said.

BIG PICTURE

BOMMAI AS CM?

Asked whether Basavaraj Bommai is the BJP's CM candidate, Karnataka BJP in-charge Arun Singh said in Belagavi that Bommai, who was the party's campaign committee head, had done a great job as CM and maintained the image of a common man. Singh avoided giving a direct answer to the tricky question of Bommai as the CM face of the party. After his exit from the BJP, Jagadish Shettar said he was the senior most Lingayat leader after Yediyurappa in the BJP. Stating that the BJP's top leadership was not aware of developments in Karnataka ahead of elections, Shettar held party leader B L Santhosh totally responsible for his exit.

CONGRESS STRATEGY

In an attempt to consolidate Lingayat votes in constituencies of Kittur Karnataka and Kalyan Karnataka, the Congress is keen on former BJP leaders Jagadish Shettar and Laxman Savadi, who hail from two influential Lingayat sub-sects, campaigning in these Lingayat citadels. Experts believe Savadi's shift to Congress and his upcoming campaigns may result in a drastic swing of Lingayat votes in favour of Congress, especially in constituencies like Athani, Kagwad, Ramdurg, Raibag, Chikkodi, Sindagi, Basavan Bagewadi, Vijayapura, Terdal and other neighbouring seats. Shettar's campaign may help Congress consolidate Lingayat votes in several urban pockets of Dharwad, Bagalkot, Vijayapura and Haveri districts.

With hotter nights, power demand high

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

"THE night demand has also increased because the average night temperature has increased, compared to previous years. This time last year, most parts of Karnataka experienced early monsoon and the demand was not high. But that is not the case this year," the official explained.

The department is managing the peak demand in the day with solar power, where the generation is 6,500 MW per day. Since there is still no proper power storage mechanism, the night demand is a challenge.

To meet the increasing demand for power, the department has also improved its grid network and capped leakages. "We have an installed capacity of 32 million units in Karnataka and can handle the peak demand of up to 9,000 MW at any given point.

With the delay in pre-monsoon showers and rising temperatures, we are anticipating a rise in demand in the coming days," the official added.

CM Basavaraj Bommai greets the new junior seer of Siddaganga Mutt

Succession: Siddaganga Mutt initiates new seer

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Tumakuru

TUMAKURU-based Siddaganga Mutt on Sunday initiated 36-year-old Manoj Kumar into 'sanyas' as the junior seer to the current mutt head Sri Siddalinga Swamiji. He has been named Sri Shiva Siddeshwara Swamiji.

Head of Suttur Mutt Sri Shivarathrideshikendra Swamiji and other religious heads took part in the religious ceremony at the five-century-old Virakta mutt of the Lingayat community in the region.

Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai too visited the mutt and greeted the new junior seer. After the demise of 111-year-old 'walking god' Sri Shivakumara Swamiji in 2019 Sri Siddalinga Swamiji, who was junior to the former, became the head of the mutt.

Two more seers have been appointed heads of Kanchugal Bande Math and Basavakalyana Math of Devanahalli in Bengaluru Rural.

PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT, Mr.M.ARUN son of Sri.C.Muthu residing at No.75, 2nd main road, AECS Layout, Sanjay Nagar, Bangalore -560094 is the absolute owners of the property described in the Schedule hereunder.

It is brought to the notice of the general public that, our client has negotiated and decided to purchase the Schedule Property from the above said owner. All persons having any claims against or to the Schedule Property or any part thereof by way of inheritance, mortgage, sale, conveyance, MOU, Agreement to Sell, G.P.A, transfer, lease deed, tenancy, license, lien, charge, trust, maintenance, easement, gift, exchange, possession, adverse possession or otherwise howsoever are hereby required to submit the same in writing along with documentary proof to the undersigned at their office **within 15 days from the date of publication hereof,** failing which our client shall proceed without any reference to such claim and the same, if any, will be considered as waived.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of the Industrial Plot No.52-A measuring East 115 mtrs, West 115 mtrs, North 40 mtrs, South 41 mtrs, totally measuring 4656 Sq.mtrs, Part of Survey number 81,91 and 57 of Chokkahalli Village, Kasaba Hobli, Hoskote Taluk Bangalore Rural District and bounded on;

East by : Property bearing No.58C1, 58C3, 58C4;
West by : Property bearing No.52;
North by : Property bearing No. 46 & 47;
South by : KIADB Road.

Dated this 24th day of April 2023 at Bangalore

M/S. LEGAL NEXUS, ADVOCATES & CONSULTANTS,
No.428, First Floor, 25th Cross, 24th Main HSR Layout, Sector 2, Bangalore-560102. Phone: 080-65555914, Mobile: 9945688974; 9164150690; 6362102374; 9845049250

IDFC FIRST Bank Limited
(erstwhile Capital First Limited and amalgamated with IDFC Bank Limited)
CIN : L65110TN2014PLC097792
Registered Office: KRM Towers, 8th Floor, Harrington Road, Chetpet, Chennai-600031. TEL: +91 44 4564 4000 | FAX: +91 44 4564 4022.

APPENDIX IV [Rule 8(1)]
POSSESSION NOTICE (For immovable property)

Whereas the undersigned being the Authorised Officer of the **IDFC FIRST Bank Limited (erstwhile Capital First Limited and amalgamated with IDFC Bank Limited)** under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of powers conferred under section 13(12) read with rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 issued a demand notice dated **22.10.2022** calling upon the borrower, co-borrowers and guarantors **1. Shiva Kumar Reddy 2. Selvi G,** to repay the amount mentioned in the notice being **Rs. 21,68,459.05 (Rupees Twenty One Lac Sixty Eight Thousand Four Hundred Fifty Nine and Five Paise Only)** as on **20.10.2022,** within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said Demand notice.

The borrowers having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the borrower and the public in general that the undersigned has taken **Symbolic Possession** of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him under sub – section (4) of section 13 of Act read with rule 8 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 on this **18th day of April 2023.**

The borrowers in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of the **IDFC First Bank Limited (erstwhile Capital First Limited and amalgamated with IDFC Bank Limited)** for an amount of **Rs. 21,68,459.05/-(Rupees Twenty One Lac Sixty Eight Thousand Four Hundred Fifty Nine and Five Paise Only)** and interest thereon.

The borrower's attention is invited to provisions of sub – Section (8) Of Section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets.

Description of the Immovable properties

All That Piece And Parcel Of Property Bearing Bbmp New Katha No. 63, Old House List Nos. 61, 62 & 63, Measuring East To West 26 Feet And North To South 34.6 Feet, Situated At Chikkabanaswadi Gramtana, Bangalore, Comprising Of A Building Bounded As: **East: 6 Feet Wide Common Passage And Thereafter Private Property, West : Property Elongs To Mr. Angadi Krishnappa, North : Property Belong To Mr. S Bhuma Reddy, South : Road**

Sd/-
Authorised Officer
IDFC First Bank Limited
(erstwhile Capital First Limited and amalgamated with IDFC Bank Limited)

Date : 18th April 2023
Place : Bangalore
Loan Account No : 15201379.

The Grain Merchants' Co-Operative Bank Limited Phone 26677552, 26679041
H.O, No.2, Pampamahakavi Road, Chamarajpet, Bengaluru - 560 018.

PUBLIC AUCTION OF THE IMMOVABLE PROPERTY

Auction sale under the securitization and reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforce of Security Interest Act 2002 Section 13(4) of the Immovable properties mortgaged to The Grain Merchants' Co-Operative Bank Ltd., is brought to Sale under **"AS IS WHERE IS CONDITION" and "AS IS WHAT IS CONDITION".** Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower/(s) and Guarantor/(s) that the below described immovable property mortgaged/charged to the Secured Creditor, **Symbolic possession** of which has been taken by the Authorized Officer.

Sl. No	Name of the Borrower	Discription of Property	Balance Outstanding	Auction Date
1	**Sri Ramaiah** S/o Chikka Kempaiah No.8, 1st Main, Nanjundeshwara Nagar Nandini Layout, Bengaluru-560 096	**All that piece and parcel of the property bearing No.35 PID No.12-33-35 (old No.8), 1st Main Road, Nanjundeshwara Nagar, Ward No.12, Nandini Layout, Bangalore. Measuring East to West: 40 Ft. and North To South:30 Ft., totally measuring 1200 Sq.Ft., With constructed building consisting Ground, First, Second & Third Floor and bounded as East by: BDA Road, West by: Site bearing No.20, North by ; Ashwath Katte & Land for Temple, South by: Site bearing No.9.** **Reserve Price of Property: Rs.1,12,28,000/- (10% is Rs.11,22,800/-)**	**Rs.26,12,487/- Upto 18.04.2023**	**25.05.2023 Thursday at 11.00 am**
2	**Sri B.R.Vasudevan** S/o Late M.Raju Chettiar No.43/1, 9th Cross , R.C.Agrahara Chamarajpet, Bengaluru-560 018	**Item No.1** **All that piece and parcel of the Property No.2, (in erstwhile Sy.No.62/2, Gavipuram Village, Kasaba Hobli, Bangalore North Taluk), Khatha No.111, Present BBMP Khatha No.111/2, Devanathachar Street, Dasappa Garden, Chamarajpet, Bangalore-18, measuring East to West: 25'9" and North to South: 65'6" in all totally measuring 1699 Sq.Ft., together with building/s constructed thereon along with easementary rights, appurtenances' etc., and the said property is bounded on the East by: Property No.3 belonging to Siddappa, West by: Property No.1 belonging to L.Siddalinga, North by: Property belonging to Kudlimutt & South by: Layout Road.** **Item No.2** **All that piece and parcel of the property No.3, (in erstwhile Sy.No.62/2, Gavipuram Village, Kasaba Hobli, Bangalore North Taluk), Old Khatha No.111/3, Present BBMP Khatha No.111/2, Devanathachar Street, Dasappa Garden, Chamarajpet, Bangalore-18, measuring East to West: 8' and North to South: 66' in all totally measuring 528 Sq.Ft., together with building/s constructed thereon along with easementary rights, appurtenances' etc., and the said property is bounded on the East by: Remaining Portion of the same Property, West by: Property No.2 belonging to Gowramma and others, North by: Property belonging to Kudlimutt & South by: Layout Road.** **The old PID No.46-24-111/2, Old Ward No.46, Old Ward Name: Chamarajpet, New PID No. 140-W0169-5, New Ward No.140, New Ward Name: Chamarajpet. The Schedule Property vests within the jurisdiction of Basavanagudi Sub Registration Dist.** **Reserve Price of Property: Rs.1,42,07,000/- (10% is Rs.14,20,700/-)**	**Rs.93,18,730/- Upto 18.04.2023**	**25.05.2023 Thursday at 11.30 am**

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

(1) The public auction will be conducted in the premises of The Grain Merchants' Co-Operative Bank Ltd., Head Office No.2, Pampamahakavi Road, Chamarajpet, Bangalore-560018.

(2) For participation in the auction the intending bidders have to deposit an amount equivalent to 10% of the Reserve price of the property being cautioned deposit by means of Demand Draft/Pay Order drawn in favour of M/s.The Grain Merchant's Co.Operative Bank Ltd., The cautioned deposit shall be forfeited by the bank without any prior notice, if the successful bidder fails to adhere to the terms of sale, time and commits default in any manner.

(3) The Property "SHALL NOT" be sold below the reserve price

(4) In case the bidder is not successful the EMD amount shall be refund without interest.

(5) The successful bidder should deposit 25% of the sale price (inclusive of EMD) within 24 Hours after the auction sale, in Cash or Demand Draft and the balance of the Sale price within 15 days from the date of confirmation of sale. In case of default by the successful bidder, all the amounts deposited till then shall be forfeited without notice and the property shall be put for re-auction.

(6) The successful bidder shall bear the statutory dues/taxes/charges/property tax/electricity charges/water charges/conveyance charges such as stamp duty, registration fee etc. that is required to be paid in order to get the property conveyed in his favour, as per the applicable laws.

(7) The authorized officer has absolute right to accept or reject any or all if the tender or/bid/offer and/or adjourn/postpone/ cancel the auction sale without assigning any reason, and also to modify an or all terms and conditions of the sale without prior notice.

(8) The sale is subject to confirmation by the Bank.

(9) The property can be inspected by the intending bidder between 10.00 A.M. to 5.00 P.M. at his/her expenses at the address mentioned in the schedule.

(10) The property is put for sale on **"AS IS WHERE IS CONDITION" AND "AS IS WHAT IS CONDITION"** the intending bidder shall satisfy himself about the title,ownership,statutory approvals, encumbrances etc. of the property.

Place: Bangalore
Date: 18.04.2023

Sd/-
Authorised Officer,
The Grain Merchants' Co Operative Bank Ltd., Bengaluru-18

EDITORIAL

Only if we understand, can we care. Only if we care, we will help. Only if we help, we shall be saved

Jane Goodall

INDIAN EXPRESS IS NOT AN INDUSTRY. IT IS A MISSION.

— Ramnath Goenka

GOVT'S MIND GAMES WITH JUDICIARY CAN BE TRICKY

A cryptic keyword Union law minister Kiren Rijiju used to describe how he deals with the Supreme Court collegium was an eye-opener. He said it was about playing mind games but did not elaborate. Swift appointments to the higher judiciary after collegium reiterations are non-negotiable, yet the government continues to sit on many such recommendations. Apparently, it is confident it would not draw judicial censure. The government won a mind game last week when the collegium announced the withdrawal of its reiteration to transfer Orissa High Court Chief Justice S Muralidhar to the Madras High Court since the proposal was gathering dust and the judge was nearing retirement. One wonders if mind games came into play in, say, the approval of the Gujarat government's proposal to grant remission of sentence to 11 lifers after 14 years in prison in the Bilkis Bano case. For, both the Centre and the Gujarat government don't want to submit their files on remission to the SC for scrutiny. Instead, both told the bench hearing Bilkis' plea that they were weighing options to go for an appeal against its order to produce the files. Thankfully, the bench didn't blink. It warned it would draw conclusions if the paperwork was unavailable. Such confrontation between the executive and the judiciary invariably harms democracy.

Significantly, another set of lifers in the Gujarat riots was not treated on par with those in the Bilkis case though the former had already spent 17–18 years in jail. The SC had to intervene and grant bail to eight of them. That they were among those who initially lit the communal fire that left the nation scarred forever is undeniable, as they were found guilty of torching the Sabarmati Express coach in Godhra on February 27, 2002, that killed 59 Kar Sevaks. But mob justice to avenge wrong is not acceptable either. When the mobs scoured the streets of Gujarat for revenge, pregnant Bilkis Bano, then 21, became a target of one of them as she was gang-raped and nine of her relatives murdered.

Bilkis' rapists and murderers were at least convicted as the case was tried in Maharashtra. But in another post-Godhra riot in Naroda village where 11 people were slain, a special court in Ahmedabad last week acquitted all 67 accused. It is a sad commentary on the state of the judiciary in Gujarat and the near-total polarisation of its polity.

MANUFACTURING IS KEY, BUT DON'T SNUB SERVICES

The services sector's contribution to the country's GDP often gets eclipsed by the focus on rejuvenating the manufacturing sector. The argument favouring a robust manufacturing sector is that it creates many low-skill jobs required for weaning workers off agriculture and construction. But we forget that every year, record numbers of engineers, MBAs, other graduates and postgraduates enter the market. Despite quality issues, our education system has produced competent and highly skilled youth in the software industry and finance, legal and other professional fields. For years, the fear that despite being highly educated, some Indians lack soft skills like communication, creativity, etc., and hence are not suited for services sector jobs—may have been overplayed. So, the need is to create an enabling environment for this sector to grow the way the government wants the manufacturing sector to grow.

The services sector accounted for over 56% of gross value addition and 42% of the country's total exports in FY23. Despite the focus on manufacturing, the services sector has emerged as a big foreign exchange earner for the country. The growth in services exports vis-à-vis merchandise exports is testimony to this fact. In the past decade, the country's services exports have grown at a CAGR of 8.3% compared to the 3.8% for merchandise exports. Software exports dominated India's services exports for a long time, but other professional services (legal, auditing, management consultation, engineering services, etc.) have started generating positive net export numbers. A big advantage India has over many developed countries is that higher education is still cheaper, allowing many school passouts to pursue it. This gives a cost advantage to India, which can provide a large pool of low-cost, high-skilled labour to service global businesses.

India has been signing several free trade agreements (FTAs) with developed countries to give Indian merchandise exporters access to larger markets. While doing so, the government should not lose sight of the services exports and must ensure that our exporters get 'fair' treatment in these FTAs. Recently, the Bar Council of India allowed foreign legal firms to offer services in India. The rule of reciprocity should ensure that Indian law firms can operate in foreign countries. Similarly, CAs, chefs and other services professionals from banking, finance and insurance must get easier access to other economies.

QUICK TAKE

CURB POWER THEFT

Uttar Pradesh surveys to identify people using power without legal connections. The number of domestic connections is much lower than the total number of households. The state plans punitive action against illegal power users once the survey results are in. Power theft is India's worst-kept open secret, costing over ₹20,000 crore annually. Rampant corruption undermines the mostly outdated anti-theft measures. Underground power cabling is a lasting solution but begs implementation. Tech devices like smart cards, meters and digitised monitoring of power consumption by class, sector and locality must replace existing processes. Vote-bank politics that overlooks power theft must cease.

The ostensible reason for the questionable amendment is to eliminate fake news, which is merely an excuse

CENSORSHIP HAS A BRAND NEW OUTFIT IN INDIA

KAPIL SIBAL

Senior lawyer and member of Rajya Sabha

SOUMYADIP SINHA

On April 6, 2023, the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) notified the Information Technology (Intermediary Guidelines and Digital Media Ethics Code) Amendment Rules, 2023, that, besides seeking to regulate the online gaming sector, also gives the Press Information Bureau (PIB) the authority to identify fake or false or misleading online content with respect to any business of the Centre under Rule 3(1)(b)(v) of the 2023 Amendment Rules. What this means is that now, PIB has the power to take down any information that it deems fake—but that's not all.

The cherry on this 'amendment fudge' is the withdrawal of legal immunity, provided by Section 79 of the IT Act, 2000, to social media platforms and intermediaries in case they do not comply with PIB's diktat. Section 79 clearly spells out that "an intermediary shall not be liable for any third party information, data, or communication link made available or hosted by him."

The same Section 79 was read down by the Hon'ble Supreme Court in *Shreya Singhal v. Union of India* (2015), wherein Section 66(A) of the IT Act, 2000, was struck down by the court. The court also assured immunity to intermediaries under Section 79, unless an active role is established in the commission of an offence.

Section 66(A) criminalised the sending of offensive messages through a computer or other communication devices. The court declared Section 66(A) unconstitutional, holding that it violated freedom of speech guaranteed by Article 19(1)(a) of the Constitution. Article 19(1)(a) stipulates that all citizens shall have the right to freedom of speech and expression subject to reasonable restrictions that may be imposed under Article 19(2). The court found that none of the heads of restrictions under which free speech and expression can be curtailed had any nexus with Section 66(A).

In striking down the section, the court also invoked the cardinal principle that no one should be a judge in his own cause or be interested in its outcome. The court relied on the dictum that the authority to which the case is assigned ought to be unbiased and must abjure favouritism. It thus struck down Section 66(A) also on the ground that its unilateralism in exercise of power also violates the principles of natural justice.

The amendment in question is consistent with this regime's proclivity to throttle free speech and regulate the flow of information. The government is aware that intermediaries cannot risk being embroiled in court processes in the event they choose to disobey the diktats of PIB in taking down content which it finds unpalatable.

Those in power find the immunity to intermediaries provided in *Shreya Singhal* a hindrance to their design to exclude from the public domain information that they deem unfavourable. The ostensible reason for the questionable amendment is to eliminate fake news, which is merely an excuse. The real intent behind this move is to eliminate all shades of criticism. The quest to vehemently suppress freedom of speech now includes shooting both the message and the medium.

Once intermediaries fall in line, as they are bound to, any criticism of the government will be removed on grounds that it misrepresents or misleads.

Basically, the 2023 Amendment Rules empower the government to identify what it considers fake news, paving the way for further absolutism since the 'fact-check unit' will exercise its subjective judgement in such a determination. This is the most deeply worrying aspect of this entire charade.

We should all be worried by this development. For its part, the Editors Guild of India expressed its reservations by stating that "the government has given itself absolute power to determine what is fake or not, in respect of its own work…" and this new amendment and the fact-checking unit assumes "sweeping powers to determine what is fake or false". By endowing such drastic power to one singular authority, the government has buried objectivity and transparency, making way for despotic decision-making, contrary to fundamental principles of governance. In the wake of this Amendment, our discussions on national issues, our criticism of the ruling regime and our participation to keep democracy robust will be held back under the guise of "fake news".

While no one can oppose honest attempts to curb the menace of fake news and misinformation, given the track record of this government and the disdain with which it deals with the fundamental rights of citizens, it is not likely to abide by acceptable standards of assessment of information to maintain objectivity. The International Fact Checking Network (IFCN) adheres to a code of principles of which the guiding light is "a commitment to non-partisanship and fairness". The same unfortunately cannot be said about PIB, which on many occasions in the past has simply flagged down content on the basis of it being critical of the ruling regime.

The 2023 Amendment Rules, while assigning arbitrary and discretionary power to the government without prescribing any procedures, will have a significant impact on online freedom of expression and access to online information. What constitutes fake information and what does not is another way of saying that the government is going to take down whatever information it finds going against its political grain.

With Lok Sabha elections due in 2024, this rushed up move by the government should be seen for what it is—an extreme measure to do away with any information which questions its inadequacies/missteps/failures.

Any information which puts the spotlight on this regime's incompetence will be termed 'fake' through its own holier than thou 'fact-checking unit'. Who's going to show the king the mirror, when mirrors are banned in the kingdom?

I feel this new development should be a matter of extreme concern for each one of us—not just as public representatives, but as practitioners and consumers of democracy, where the voice of the people is cardinal.

How will the sanctity of public and individual expression be upheld when the noose of 'fact-checking' tightens, choking it every time the expression doesn't align with the government's version?

This reminds me of DaShanne Stokes' words: "Ethics and oversight are what you eliminate when you want absolute power."

(Tweets @KapilSibal)

BE NICE, YOU NEVER KNOW WHO COULD DO YOU IN

RENUKA NARAYANAN

FAITHLINE

Old Indian books amaze in the way they impart life codes through stories. In particular, the *Panchatantra* by Vishnu Sharman has an energy of its own that also tells us why India is called the 'Mother of Story'. As far back as around 570 CE, Burzoi, physician to Anaushirvan Khusro, emperor of Iran, translated the *Panchatantra* into Pahlavi. This was next translated into another old language, Syriac, by the priest Buda, as *Kalilag-Damnag*. The title came from 'Karataka' and 'Damnaka', the names of two jackals in a *Panchatantra* story.

Buda's translation became *Kalila wa Dimna* in Arabic in 750 CE. The *Panchatantra* reportedly went on a long journey after that into Greek, Hebrew, Latin, Italian, Spanish, Dutch, Danish, Icelandic, French and English. The story that I would like to retell shows us why we should never take subordinates for granted:

Gorambha, the head sweeper of the palace in the kingdom of Avantika was very tired cleaning up after a big party. How many pots of liquor had the courtiers drunk and how much roast meat had their platters been piled with? The only man who had behaved with restraint was the Prime Minister, Dantila. Gorambha, who observed everybody and everything as he went from room to room, his minions cleaning behind him, approved of Dantila. Was there ever such a sober, sensible, and fair-minded man? Avantika ran smoothly and with due process because of Dantila. He was sympathetic to rightful needs but brooked no nonsense. Dantila especially disdained bribery and corruption as totally beneath him.

"It's really another kind of vanity," thought Gorambha cynically, "but the most useful kind to have. Dantila understands that high moral ground is the only place to be if you want your way, and he pays the price of self-restraint for it. Nobody can find any mud to throw at him. I can see it all so clearly." And today was the wedding lunch for Dantila's daughter. Gorambha had been invited as a palace official and made his way to Dantila's house.

Entering the finely decorated mansion, Gorambha suddenly felt an immense wave of fatigue wash over him and sat down on the nearest couch. Almost at once, Dantila's estate manager came up and asked him to sit somewhere else, saying "These seats are reserved for the king's relatives." Gorambha stood up, embarrassed. He spotted Dantila at the door and greeted him from afar. But Dantila was receiving important guests and waved a dismissive hand.

Gorambha strode out, enraged. Too angry to go home at once, he walked along the banks of the river Shipra and being quite clever, thought up a plan to teach Dantila a lesson.

Whereas his team cleaned the rest of the palace, the royal apartments were under Gorambha's personal care. The next morning, he did not set to work quietly in the king's bedchamber. He groaned, hiccupped and clattered. When he saw the king's eyelids flutter, he muttered, "Ah, fine doings. My master sleeps innocently while Dantila romances the queen."

EXPRESS PHOTO

> Gorambha stood up, embarrassed. He spotted Dantila at the door and greeted him from afar. But Dantila was receiving important guests and waved a dismissive hand

The king shot up in bed. "What did you say?" he barked. Gorambha cringed humbly. "Forgive me, Majesty. I had too much to drink last night, I don't know what idiocies I mumbled." The king snorted and lay down again. But the seed of doubt planted by Gorambha shot up almost at once into a big tree. "That fellow sees everything, what if it's true?" worried the king. He tore out in a royal rage and declared that Dantila was dismissed and not allowed to enter the palace again.

Dantila responded to this shattering diktat with silence. He attended to his household and estates with such poise that everyone agreed Dantila was a true *karma yogi* of the good old sort who did his duty unattached to awards and rewards, the very person described in the *Bhagavad Gita* who responded to life's up and downs with utter equanimity.

Meanwhile, lacking direction and a firm hand, the kingdom rapidly unraveled. Thieves and vagabonds migrated to Avantika as news spread of its supportive atmosphere for their professions. Judges and administrators began to accept bribes, the army grew restive and the balance of trade dipped alarmingly because of intolerable malpractice.

Driven by loyalty to his country, Dantila decided to go to the palace to reason with the king. Gorambha came by as Dantila was turned away and could not resist gloating, "Hah, so the great Dantila is shown the door like how he showed me the door at his daughter's wedding."

Dantila went away at once, knowing what had happened and why. He sent courteously for Gorambha that very evening and got the whole story. Apologising handsomely, he presented Gorambha with a fine set of clothes. Pleased and appeased, Gorambha, with the hint of a swagger, promised to make things right the next day.

Going into the king's room the next morning, Gorambha broke out again into a clatter and muttered, "What a funny king, he eats cucumbers on the chamber pot." The king leapt out of bed. "When did you ever see me do that, liar?" he raged. "Forgive me, Majesty, I had too much to drink last night, I don't know what I said," cringed Gorambha. The king let him off with an angry warning. "I give him till after breakfast," chortled Gorambha silently as he scurried out.

Sure enough, the king sent word to Dantila by mid-morning and a royal reconciliation gracefully took place with no questions asked. It took Dantila over six months of hard work to put the kingdom back on track. Law and order were sternly restored and best practices firmly re-established. Dantila then threw a party for all the officials who had been critical in regaining control. Gorambha was invited too and went away well-satisfied. As insurance, though, Dantila planted his own man in Gorambha's team to clean for the crown prince, to block Gorambha's possible influence in that quarter and never failed to send Gorambha a fine basket of fruit every New Year.

(shebaba09@gmail.com)

MAILBAG

WRITE TO: letters@newindianexpress.com

Amritpal nabbed

The Punjab Police have demonstrated exceptional skill and dedication in the arrest of Amritpal Singh. This accomplishment shows the professionalism of the Punjab Police in maintaining law and order. The efforts are testament to their unwavering commitment to protect citizens from threats and criminal activities.
Baleswar R, Mavelikara

Karnataka elections

Apropos of *Karnataka 2023 enters Indian 2024 game* (Apr 23). Considering its performance and hardline Hindutva, the present BJP dispensation in Karnataka does not deserve a mandate for another term. The fact that the BJP could not find a single Muslim candidate worthy of being fielded in the upcoming state election is upsetting and flabbergasting.
C G Kuriakose, Kothamangalam

Pulwama attack

Satyapal Malik has raised an extremely serious allegation that the Centre's failure to arrange air transport for the CRPF jawans resulted in the killing of 40 of them in Pulwama in 2019. The 40 families must now be anxious to know what really happened. The government should respond to the allegation. Otherwise it is going to affect PM Modi's credibility. Malik should be taken to task if he is lying.
Athulya M, Hyderabad

Varma's paintings

Apropos of *Raja Ravi Varma, who brought gods home* (Apr 23). As mentioned by the writer in his excellent tribute to the visionary painter on his 175th birth anniversary, had it not been for the ingenuity of Raja Ravi Varma, gods and goddesses would have been faceless entities to be revered only in temples. Today, every Hindu house has pictures of gods and goddesses, magnificently created by Varma.
N Rama Rao, Chennai

Disadvantages galore

Becoming the most populous country is definitely not a happy moment for India. The nation is already in the grip of a lot of social tensions and severe shortage of land and other natural resources. In such a situation, considering population an asset is defeatist.
Geetha B K, Mangaluru

Darwin's theory

Darwin's theory of natural selection was a groundbreaking discovery and has greatly influenced our understanding of the evolution of life on Earth. It has always aroused great interest among students because of its contribution to the evolution of biological sciences. NCERT's decision to remove it from textbooks is truly disappointing.
K Ruthvik Goud, email

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TWEETS OF THE DAY

Piyush Goyal @PiyushGoyal
At the India Gems & Jewellery Awards, urged stakeholders to promote economies of scale, talent & quality to make India an export powerhouse

Ajay Maken @ajaymaken
In Jalandhar, Kejriwal, unable to find a suitable candidate within his party, inducted an ex-MLA from @INCIndia and gave him ticket against Congress

Vivek Tankha @VTankha
Indore! A full hall of lawyers & law students heard @sampitroda @KapilSibal @VTankha on issues confronting our state MP, India & our institutions

India's rank up in World Bank logistics index

Improves from 44th place in 2018 to 38th in 2023 after the government announced PM Gati Shakti project in 2021

RAJESH KUMAR THAKUR @New Delhi

INDIA has improved its ranking on the World Bank's Logistic Performance Index (LPI) 2023 by jumping to 38th position from 44th place among 139 countries in terms of investment in technology and logistic infrastructure.

India's LPI was 54 in 2014 which improved to 44 in 2018. Responding to India's improved performance in LPI, Union Road Transport and Highways Minister Nitin Gadkari said India has made considerable strides in its logistics prowess under Prime Minister Narendra Modi's leadership and vision. This ranking has improved after significant investments made in both soft and hard infrastructure as well as technology across the country.

India jumped to 38th position in 2023 after the Modi-led government announced the ambitious PM Gati Shakti project as the National Master Plan for multimodal connectivity in October 2021. The National Logistic Policy was launched last year to ensure quick last-mile delivery, end transport-related challenges, save time and money of the manufacturing in the logistics sector.

According to the World Bank's LPI report, India's rank moved up five places in infrastructure score from 52nd in 2018 to 47th in 2023. The ranking climbed to 22nd spot on international shipments in 2023 from 44th in 2018 and moved four places up to 48th in logistics competence.

The report has cited further that modernisation and digitalisation as a reason for emerging economies like India to leapfrog advanced countries.

"Since 2015, the Government of India has invested in trade-related soft and hard infrastructure connecting port gateways on both coasts to the economic poles in the hinterland," the report said.

The report also stated that the technology has been a critical component of this effort, with implementation under a public-private partnership of a supply chain visibility platform that contributed to remarkable reductions of delays.

According to the report, the average dwell time for containers between May and October 2022 was three days for India and Singapore, much better than some of the industrialised countries whereas the dwell time for the US was seven days and for Germany it was 10 days. "The emerging economies with the shortest delays have gone beyond these packages and have implemented bold tracking and tracing solutions. India's very low dwell time (2.6 days) is one example," the World Bank report said.

It stated that with the introduction of cargo tracking, dwell time in the eastern port of Visakhapatnam in Andhra Pradesh fell from 32.4 days in 2015 to 5.3 days in 2019.

End-to-end supply chain digitalization, especially in emerging economies, is allowing countries to shorten port delays by up to 70 per cent compared to those in developed countries, according to the report.

Moreover, the demand for green logistics is rising, with 75 per cent of shippers looking for environment-friendly options when exporting to high-income countries".

GOOD SHOW

Year 2023	LPI Rank	LPI Score	Customs Score	Infrastructure Score
	38	3.4	47	47

International shipments Score	Logistics competence Score	Tracking & tracing Score	Timeliness Score
22	38	35	41

Since 2015, India has invested in trade-related soft and hard infrastructure connecting port gateways to the economic poles in the hinterland

World Bank's LPI report

POWER GAMES

SHAHID FARIDI
The writer is Resident Editor TNIE, New Delhi.
Email: shahid@newindianexpress.com

Representation of People

GOVT LIKELY TO RAISE LOK SABHA STRENGTH TO 848

India's new status as the world's most populous country and the construction of the new parliament building with a seating capacity of 888 in the Lok Sabha has brought the focus back to setting up a new delimitation commission to increase the number of seats in the Lok Sabha. The seat revision was last carried out through the 31st Constitutional amendment of 1973 when the number of Lok Sabha seats increased from 524 to 545. A decision was taken in 1976 to freeze the Lok Sabha strength for the next 25 years. The LS strength was frozen for another 25 years in 2001. A new delimitation commission is now due in 2026. Sources said that setting up a new commission would soon start. The challenge before the government would be to ensure that the states that have successfully implemented the family planning programmes and kept their population under check do not get disadvantaged in redistributing seats. Experts say that the government will have to amend Article 81 of the Constitution, which mandates an equal number of constituents for constituencies across the country and evolve a new formula for the redistribution of seats among states. As per the present population, if seats are distributed as per the old formula, the number of Lok Sabha seats will likely go up to 848, with Uttar Pradesh bagging 143 seats, while Kerala remains at 20 seats---the present number. The southern states have flagged the issue, and the government is working on reconciling the need to raise the strength of MPs and doing justice to states that have exercised population discipline.

Bihar Strategy

BJP BUILDING RAINBOW COALITION OF CASTE PARTIES

The BJP leadership is busy implementing its hugely successful Uttar Pradesh strategy in Bihar. In UP, while the dominant caste among the OBCs - Yadavs - largely backed the Samajwadi Party and the dominant SC caste, Jatav, backed the Bahujan Samaj Party, the BJP built a strong coalition of all non-Yadav OBCs and non-Jatav SCs. The strategy worked magic for the BJP, sweeping the state in successive elections. The party is now working to implement the same strategy in Bihar. While Bihar chief minister Nitish Kumar and deputy chief minister Tejashwi Yadav command the support of the two dominant castes, Yadavs and Kurmis, the BJP has decided to win over the smaller caste leaders. Among them are former Union minister Upendra Kushwaha, former Bihar chief minister Jitan Ram Manjhi, late Ram Vilas Paswan's son Chirag Paswan, his uncle Pashupatinath Paras and VIP Party chief Mukesh Sahni. Kushwaha, who had quit Prime Minister Narendra Modi's ministry to merge his party with Bihar chief minister Nitish Kumar's Janata Dal (United), hoping to emerge as his successor, is already headed back to the BJP-led National Democratic Alliance. He decided to leave the JD(U) after Nitish made it clear that in the event of his exit as chief minister, the leadership of the JD(U)-RJD alliance would pass on to his deputy chief minister, Tejashwi Yadav. Kushwaha has now formed a new party called the Rashtriya Lok Janata Dal, which, according to sources, will contest the next Lok Sabha election in alliance with the BJP. Another Bihar leader who has decided to join hands with the BJP is Chirag Paswan. Chirag's Lok Janshakti Party (Ram Vilas) had fought the last assembly election independently, with perhaps a tacit understanding with the BJP. He has now decided to enter into an alliance with the BJP for the 2024 Lok Sabha elections. The BJP is also in touch with Manjhi and Sahni, who are at present with the ruling coalition in the state but are ready to switch

Most of 24 lakh water bodies are in rural areas, says survey

AMIT MUKHERJEE @New Delhi

Out of over 25 lakh active water bodies in the country, rural India accounts for about 97 per cent and only 3 per cent are active in urban areas, according to India's first-ever census of water resources.

According to 'Irrigation Census, the first-ever comprehensive census of water bodies, by the Ministry of Jal Shakti to evaluate the water security situation, India has 24,24,540 water bodies, out of which 97.1 per cent (23,55,055) are in rural areas and 2.9 per cent (69,485) are in urban areas.

The survey revealed that 78 per cent water bodies are man-made whereas 22 per cent are natural water bodies and 1.6 per cent (38,496) water bodies have been encroached upon.

The census, which was launched in convergence with the 6th Minor Irrigation Census, provides a comprehensive inventory of India's water resources, including natural and man-made water bodies like ponds, tanks, lakes, and more.

It was also aimed at o collecting data on the encroachment of water bodies. The census also highlighted disparities between rural and urban areas and varying levels of encroachment and revealed insights into the country's water resources.

According to ministry sources, the survey was undertaken with the aim to identify, evaluate, conserve and preserve the water bodies as water is "an important aspect for development which is linked with every Sustainable Development Goal".

With availability of water being limited and the gap between the supply and demand widening over time, concerted efforts are needed to conserve and preserve these water bodies, a senior ministry official said.

Water being a critical element, the Ministry of Jal Shakti which is the nodal ministry for laying down policy guidelines and programmes for the development, conservation and management of water as a national resource.

The census has released information on all important aspects of the water bodies, including their type, condition, status of encroachments, use and storage capacity and status of filling up was collected.

The survey took into account all uses of water bodies like irrigation, industry, pisciculture, domestic and drinking, recreation, religious, ground water recharge etc. Census has been successfully completed and the pan-India and state-wise reports have been published.

FIRST-EVER CENSUS

Total **24,24,540**

97.1% in rural areas
2.9% are in urban areas
78% man-made
22% natural

TYPES
Ponds 59.5%
Tanks 15.7%
Reservoirs 12.1%
Lakes 0.9%
Others 2.5%
Water conservation schemes/percolation tanks/check dams 9.3%

HIGHLIGHTS	
West Bengal	7,47,480
Uttar Pradesh	2,45,087
Andhra Pradesh	1,90,777
Odisha	1,81,837
Assam	1,72,492
Gujarat	1,463
Delhi	893
Maharashtra	97,062
Madhya Pradesh	82,643
J&K	9,765
Sikkim	134
Uttarakhand	3,096
Himachal Pradesh	88,017
Kerala	55,734
Telangana	64,055

Military leaders of India, China resume talks to ease tension in eastern Ladakh

MAYANK SINGH @New Delhi

The 18th round of talks between Corps Commanders of India and China are on to defuse tension along the Line of Actual Control (LAC) in Eastern Ladakh. The discussion have taken place even as tension is prevailing due to heavy deployment of troops on both sides of LAC.

Sources on Sunday confirmed that the talks are being held at the Chushul-Moldo meeting point in Eastern Ladakh. "They (talks) are continuing," a source said.

Meanwhile, Chinese Defence Minister Li Shangfu is scheduled to be in India for the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) Defence Ministers' meetings next week. This will be the first visit of Li Shangfu as he was appointed as China's new Defence Minister in March.

Lt Gen Rashim Bali, the Leh based Fire and Fury Corps Commander, is leading the Indian side in the discussions. The defence of Eastern Ladakh is looked after by the Fire and Fury Corps. The Chinese side is led by the South Xinjiang Military District Commander. The situation along the LAC in Eastern Ladakh has been tense since May 2020 as the

troops of the Chinese Peoples' Liberation Army clashed with the Indian Army soldiers at Finger 4 on the Northern Bank of the Pangong Lake.

Post the clashes, China has deployed its troops in the areas of North Bank and South Bank of Pangong Tso, Gogra, Hot Spring and Depsang, leading to a standoff between the two sides.

This was in addition to the standoff existing at Depsang and Demchok. This meeting is taking place after a gap of four months. The Corps Commander-level meeting was last held in December 2022.

India has been asking for status-quo ante to the April 2020 position on ground in Eastern Ladakh and has asked China to move its troops back from the Depsang Plains and the Demchok area.

The 17 rounds of previous Corps Commanders talks have led to disengagement at Galwan (Patrolling Point 14), North and South banks of Pangong Tso, Gogra (PP 17A) and Hot-Springs (PP 15). In addition, there have been multiple diplomatic parlays between the two countries.

The troops have moved back from the earlier eye-to-eye deployment from the standoff points to new locations but they remain in the area.

PFI had own courts in bid to set up Caliphate: NIA

AMIT MUKHERJEE @New Delhi

From running a well-established set-up with skilled squads comprising highly trained cadres comprising of 'service teams', to running courts called 'Dar-ul-Qaza' to pronounce orders on punishments and executions, the Popular Front of India (PFI) made elaborate plans on how to wage a war on the State to establish an Islamic Caliphate in the country, as per the NIA.

Officials in the NIA said that investigations into 5 cases, in which chargesheets have already been filed with 105 accused named, revealed that that to achieve these objectives, the PFI had established various wings and units, such as 'Reporters Wing', 'Physical and Arms Training Wing' and 'Service Teams', which were imparted specific trainings and inducted for specific missions.

"The PFI was using its various campuses, facilities and infrastructure to impart arms training to selected cadres in the guise of physical education, yoga training," NIA sources said, adding that in April, the agency had sealed off the first two stories of a school in Pune which was being used as a combat and arms training unit.

They also established a 'Reporters Wing' and 'Service Teams or Hit Teams' to eliminate their 'targets'. Whenever required, the PFI pressed its loyal and highly trained cadres into service to execute orders pronounced by their parallel courts, the NIA said in its chargesheet.

NIA's investigations in the case have also exposed a trail of funding by PFI to its terror operatives and weapons trainers across the country, both in cash and through regular bank transfers, in the guise of payment of salaries.

In several chargesheet filed in a special court in March, the NIA said, "Investigations have revealed that the PFI, acting under the cover of building a mass organisation and a socio-political movement, was actually putting together a highly motivated, trained and secretive elite force within the larger organisation, to achieve its pernicious and violent long-term objectives of establishment of Islamic rule in India by 2047."

It may sound bizarre but the questioning of a PFI member actually revealed that in 'Tharbiyath sessions' organised by the senior members, it was suggested that in case of any disturbance at the north western frontiers, the Indian Army would be busy in the north, and with PFI's training they could capture the south and move towards the north. "This indicates PFI's intention of waging war against India and to overthrow the democratically established government," the chargesheet by the NIA stated.

Officials in the NIA said that this has been the primary objective of all PFI modules operating in at least 15 states across the country.

In one of the recent chargesheets filed at a Rouse Avenue court, the NIA submitted that PFI was trapping Muslim youth who had already pledged their allegiance to the outfit and its ideology and tactics through administration of an oath of secrecy and loyalty.

"These highly radicalised men were trained in the use of arms and weapons in various arms training camps being conducted by PFI across the country with the intention of raising a well-trained PFI army or militia," one of the NIA chargesheets said.

The activities included empowerment of Muslims and marginalised sections of the society through campaigns and so-called social welfare schemes, in the guise of which the organisation was promoting its anti-India.

Its cadres provided physical education training and weapons training, with those completing advanced training being inducted in its 'hit squads'.

The PFI was using its various campuses, facilities and infrastructure to impart arms training to selected cadres in the guise of physical education, yoga training

NIA source

FCI wheat procurement up 13% as on April 20 despite adverse weather

JITENDRA CHOUBEY @New Delhi

Despite damages to the crop due to adverse weather conditions in the past two months in the wheat-growing regions, the Food Corporation of India (FCI) has augmented its wheat procurement. According to the FCI data, the government agency as on April 20 has procured 124.55 lakh tonne of wheat, 13.45 per cent higher than in the same period in 2022-23 (109.77 lakh tonne).

The FCI has kept a target of procuring 341.5 lakh tonnes (LT) of wheat this year. As on April 20, it has collected over one-third of the target. The bulk of the collection has come from Punjab, Haryana and Madhya Pradesh. Punjab contributed 46.7 LT, Haryana 42.1 LT and Madhya Pradesh 34.8 LT. Haryana has contributed more than half of the set target till now, while Punjab contributed over one-third of the set target.

"We will cross our target soon. We may procure between 350-400 LT against our target of 340 LT," said a senior official.

The government is confident of achieving this year's target even as the traders foresee lower production due to excess heat in the month of February that was followed by excess rainfall in March in wheat-growing regions.

Last year, the government had fallen short of the procurement target as it only procured 40 percent of its target of 440 LT. Early arrival of heatwave in 2022, which affected the productivity and quality of wheat, was a reason for this. Also, the Russia and Ukraine war led to supply constraints in international market which increased the price of wheat.

The procurement of wheat is important for maintaining India's food security. India provides cheaper wheat and rice to over 800 million people. This year, the government has fixed the minimum support price of wheat at ₹2,125.

Traders say the current market price of wheat is hovering around this level. So, the government is quite cautious about procurement as this year is critical to maintain India's buffer stock.

WHEAT PROCUREMENT DURING RABI MARKETING SEASON (AS ON APRIL 20)

States	Estimated Procurement target (in lakh tonne)	Current Progressing Procurement (T) 2023-24	Last Year Procurement on date (T) 2022-23
Punjab	132	46,78,954	55,28,183
Haryana	75	42,10,004	32,39,229
UP	35	69,964	50,863
MP	80	34,86,485	21,57,823
Rajasthan	5	9,443	693
Other states (Bihar, Gujarat, J&K HP, UKhand)	12.80	631	1,144
Total	**341.50**	**1,24,55,480**	**1,09,77,935**

GOLD SEIZED

A flyer was detained at the international airport on Sunday in Jaipur with gold worth ₹46.64 lakh, a Customs official said. The passenger arrived in Jaipur from the Saudi Arabian capital Riyadh via Sharjah in the UAE.

2 HELD FOR STABBING MOTORIST IN NAGPUR

Ahmedabad	37	24	Mumbai	33	26
Bhopal	34	18	Panaji	32	25
Jaipur	37	21	Patna	34	25
Amritsar	34	18	Lucknow	36	25
Chennai	37	26	Port Blair	29	25
Kolkata	33	26	Imphal	31	20
Srinagar	27	05	Chandigarh	34	18

Multi-layer security in Assam jail as Amritpal joins aides

High-mast lights installed, CCTV monitoring up in and outside Dibrugarh central prison

HARPREET BAJWA & PRASANTA MAZUMDAR @ Chandigarh/Guwahati

RADICAL preacher Amritpal Singh on Sunday joined nine of his close aides, including his uncle Harjit Singh, in Dibrugarh Central Jail in Assam where they have been lodged since last month.

Immediately after his arrest on Sunday, the Punjab Police took Amritpal from Rode village in Moga and from there, straight to the Bathinda airport under heavy security. A special plane took him to Dibrugarh in Assam by a team of Punjab police personnel where he was lodged in the high-security Central jail. The Assam Police provided heavy security cover from airport to jail.

'Nine of Amritpal's close aides — Daljit Singh Kalsi, Papalpreet Singh, Kulwant Singh Dhaliwal, Varinder Singh Johal, Gurmeet Singh Bukkanwala, Harjit Singh, Bhagwant Singh, Basant Singh and Gurinderpal Singh Aujla -- have been lodged in Dibrugarh jail in Assam and charged under the stringent National Security Act. The security around the prison has been tightened since March 19.

> Amritpal and the others (his aides) have been lodged at the Dibrugarh jail based on the request of the Punjab government. All of them have been kept within the same compound
>
> Police officer

A multi-layer security ring has been thrown around the jail as the entire jail complex has been kept out of bounds of the public. Several high-mast lights have been put up and there is around-the-clock CCTV surveillance. They are the only Sikh inmates of the Dibrugarh jail which is Assam's second oldest prison built in 1857.

The police have not yet issued any statement but a senior government official said there are no security concerns. "Amritpal and the others (his aides) have been lodged at the Dibrugarh jail based on the request of the Punjab government. All of them have been kept within the same compound," the official told this paper. "We have updated the security measures. The jail is under CCTV surveillance. The CCTVs have been also upgraded."

Security has been augmented, both inside and outside the jail. "We recently conducted a security review meeting. We don't have any security-related concerns," the official said.

Punjab CM Bhagwant Mann said the AAP government was duty-bound to preserve hard-earned peace and communal harmony in the state.

How he grabbed headlines

Life for radical preacher Amritpal Singh transformed since his return from Dubai in the middle of last year. Today, he was booked under the stringent sections of the National Security Act (NSA). Besides, Punjab Police has registered eight criminal cases. Here's how it erupted this year:

1. **February 16:** Punjab Police books Amritpal and others for kidnapping, assault, criminal intimidation and snatching on the complaint lodged by one Varinder Singh belonging to Chamkaur Sahib in Anandpur Sahib. The charge: Physical assault, threat to kill Varinder
2. **February 24:** Cases of attempt to murder and assaulting police officers registered against Amritpal and his men for attacking Ajnala Police Station to free his aide Lovepreet Singh alias Toofan on February 17. Toofan was later released by court
3. **March 18:** Amritpal booked for rash and negligent driving and disobedience to the orders of a public servant at Mehtpur Police Station, as he broke through police barricades
4. **March 19:** He faces two more cases: one at Khilchian police station, Amritsar, for rash and negligent, obstructing public servants and criminal intimidation. The second case was registered the same day by Amritsar (Rural) Police under Arms Act
5. **March 20:** Amritpal, his uncle Harjit Singh and driver Harpreet booked for trespass, wrongful confinement at Mehatpur Police Station on the complaint of Udhowal village (Jalandhar) sarpanch who alleged that Harjit and Harpreet held him and his family hostage for 29 hours at gunpoint

6. **March 21:** Booked for rioting, unlawful assembly, extortion, criminal intimidation and under Arms Act at Shahkot police station (Jalandhar), on the complaint of a gurdwara priest. The complaint said Amritpal pointed a gun at his son and demanded clothes.
7. **March 24:** He and his close aide Papalpreet booked on charges of extortion and illegal confinement at Bilga Police Station, Jalandhar (Rural) on the complaint of a woman that he forced her to help him cross the Sutlej.

- Harpreet Bajwa

He surrendered, not arrested and his mission should continue: Family

HARPREET BAJWA @ Chandigarh

Concerned about his fate, Amritpal Singh's family, which says that the radical preacher has not contacted them since he fled the police dragnet, says he surrendered on Sunday and was not arrested by the Punjab Police.

His father said that the "mission" of his son should be carried forward as he was fighting against the drug menace. His uncle said the family will fight the legal battle against his arrest.

Tarsem Singh, Amritpal's father, said he wanted the Sikh community (sangat) to fight the drug menace, a mission for his son.

"We came to know about the police action through the media as we have not been in contact with him. He still dons Sikh attire. We are thankful he did not change it. The police registered false cases against him. I am with everyone who has been harassed by the Punjab Police," he said.

While his mother Balwinder Kaur said she was proud of her son as he is a "warrior" and that he "surrendered like a lion." "My son prayed and addressed the sangat and then surrendered; he was not arrested. The police have been saying one thing or the other. The government was trying to tarnish his image. We will now go and meet him in jail, his wife Kirandeep Kaur will also go with us," she said.

His uncle Sukhchain Singh, a retired inspector with Punjab Police, said the family will fight the legal battle against his arrest.

"Finally, the dilemma has ended. We will go and meet him in jail," he said. Sources said Amritpal was under pressure as his wife Kirandeep Kaur was already barred from boarding a flight to London and was under surveillance of various agencies. He feared that after his arrest, the police might implicate his wife for helping him to escape besides that she was already being asked about the foreign funding angle. Kaur's visa to India was valid till July and that's why he was earlier trying to leave the country as he feared he would be arrested.

LUCKNOW DIARY

NAMITA BAJPAI
Our correspondent in Uttar Pradesh
namita.bajpai@newindianexpress.com

Varun Gandhi takes a dig at BJP again

Varun Gandhi, the BJP MP from Pilibhit, has become habitual of taking jibes at his own party's government, be it in Uttar Pradesh or at Centre. After the encounter killing of gangster-politician Atiq Ahmed's son Asad in Jhansi, followed by the murder of both Atiq and his brother Ashraf, the BJP MP, while addressing people of his constituency, gave a veiled indication that the minority in UP was getting targeted. He said that the governments, while cracking down on criminals, should ensure their action was not targeted at one particular community.

Industry minister embraces arch rival

Paulo Coehlo said: "When you really want something, the whole universe conspires in helping you to achieve it." Sadly, he never said what to do when the universe seems conspiring against you. It would have helped UP's industries minister Nand Gopal Gupta Nandi, who is facing a string of reverses. First, opposition parties unleashed allegations over his ties with the slain gangster Atiq Ahmad then his wife, two-time Prayagraj mayor Abhilasha Gupta, was denied the ticket this time. The latest jolt has been the move of his party to embrace his arch-rival Raees Shukla of Samajwadi Party.

Ritual performed in Ram temple at Ayodhya

A milestone of sorts was accomplished in the journey of construction of the temple of Lord Ram when the water brought from the rivers of 155 countries across the globe to perform 'Jalabhishek' of the upcoming under-construction temple in Ayodhya on Sunday. The non-resident Indians from 40 countries participated in the high-profile event. Former MLA and Delhi study group president Dr Vijay Jolly led the programme of Jalabhishek which was performed by the high priests of the temple in the presence of members of temple trust and diplomats from various countries including Fiji, Mangolia, Denmark, Bhutan, Romania, Haiti, Greece, Albania and Tibet, etc. amid the chants of 'Jai Shree Ram'.

2nd cheetah dies at Kuno, autopsy today

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Bhopal

IN a second blow to the country's ongoing Cheetah re-introduction project, the Kuno National Park (KNP) in Madhya Pradesh has reported second death of an African cheetah in less than a month.

The second casualty of the big cat happened at around 4 pm on Sunday, as an adult South African cheetah (one of the three Waterberg Biosphere adult males) died within a few hours of sudden health deterioration.

The casualty happened three days after the 12 SA cheetahs flown to KNP on February 18 were shifted from the quarantine bomas into the big acclimatization enclosures.

The concerned male Cheetah had recently got the Indian name Uday. According to a senior MP forest department official, the concerned male South African cheetah was visibly healthy till Saturday. A team of forensic experts from Jabalpur and Bhopal would be at the KNP in Sheopur district on Monday to perform the dead cheetah's autopsy.

Nitish to meet Didi on April 25 for Oppn unity talks ahead of LS polls

RAMASHANKAR @ Patna

BIHAR chief minister **Nitish Kumar** will meet his West Bengal counterpart Mamata Banerjee in Kolkata on April 25 to hold talks for forging a broader unity even as the TMC chief had already shown her reluctance to enter any electoral alliance with Congress for the 2024 Lok Sabha election.

On the other hand, Nitish is looking confident about the opposition unity with Congress on board after his recent 'meaningful' discussions with the opposition leaders, including Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge, Rahul Gandhi, Delhi CM and AAP chief Arvind Kejriwal, CPI (M) general secretary Sitaram Yechury and CPI general secretary D Raja in New Delhi.

From the meetings, it emanated that Nitish will hold discussions with leaders of various regional parties such as TMC, SP, K Chandrashekar Rao's BRS, Kejriwal's AAP, BJD and YSRCP. It has also been decided to field a single opposition candidate against BJP in the 2024 election to improve victory chances.

It is interesting that Nitish will be meeting West Bengal CM first, in his efforts to forge a broader opposition unity when Mamata's outbursts against Congress following the TMC defeat in Sagardighi by election were loud. Banerjee had termed the victory of the Congress as "immoral", alleging that the Congress, besides the CPI (M), had entered into an understanding with the BJP to defeat her party.

"Nitish has a good relationship with both Congress and TMC and in such a situation, he can succeed in at least creating a workable relationship between both parties in view of the huge electoral challenge," a political analyst added.

Pregnancy test for MP's mass marriage scheme sparks row

ANURAAG SINGH @ Bhopal

ALLEGED pregnancy tests of young girls enrolled for marriage with their grooms under Shivraj Singh Chouhan government's flagship scheme Mukyamantri Vivah Yojana in tribal dominated Dindori district, has triggered a political controversy in Madhya Pradesh.

The mass marriage of 220-odd girls under the Mukhyamantri Kanya Vivah Yojana was scheduled in Gadsarai area of Dindori district on Saturday. But the marriage of five girls wasn't solemnized as they were found to be pregnant as per the findings of urine test to determine their pregnancies.

While the opposition Congress alleged that by carrying out pregnancy tests of the girls, the local administration and state government had insulted them, the ruling BJP said the Congress was unnecessarily playing politics over the issue.

The Dindori district collector Vikas Mishra, however, said as per standard parameters the tests for sickle cell anemia (a genetic disorder reported among tribals) was carried out on all. During those tests, it was found that five girls had missed their menstrual cycles.

"Subsequently the doctors carried out the urine tests of the five girls, which established that they were pregnant. We then enquired about it, after which they told the staff that they were already married," Mishra claimed.

The Dindori chief medical and health officer (CMHO) Dr Ramesh Marawi confirmed that pregnancy tests of some girls were conducted. "Tests are conducted for age verification, sickle cell anemia and to ascertain overall fitness. Pregnancy tests were conducted at the behest of higher authorities on some girls whose cases were suspected.

Tweeting over the development, state Congress president Kamal Nath wrote, "If the reports about conducting pregnancy tests are true, then the CM needs to tell the state as to who ordered the pregnancy tests of the economically weak girls. We demand a high level probe into entire matter."

One of the girls whose pregnancy test had come positive, said "I had started living with my groom before marriage for four to six months and became pregnant. Possibly due to which my name was dropped from the final list."

Tests as per standard norms: Authorities

The Dindori chief medical and health officer Dr Ramesh Marawi said tests are conducted for age verification, sickle cell anemia and to ascertain overall fitness." The tests later revealed that the five girls were pregnant as they were already married.

26-member team visits Joshimath to assess damage caused by land sinking

NARENDRA SETHI @ Dehradun

A 26-member team of experts from various agencies, directed by the National Disaster Management Agency (NDMA), reached Joshimath on Sunday to assess the severity of damage caused during the land sinking disaster in the first week of January earlier this year.

The Centre will announce a relief package after the final report is submitted by the Post Disaster Needs Assessment (PDNA) team, while the state government, in the first week of April, has already sought a relief package of Rs 2,942 crore for the disaster-hit Joshimath from the Centre.

After the Joshimath land submergence disaster, the exercise for an economic package for its reconstruction has started. On the instructions of the central government, a team of about 26 members under the direction of the National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) has reached Joshimath, that will carry out a comprehensive assessment of PDNA for the next three days.

Speaking to this newspaper, District Magistrate Joshimath, Himanshu Khurana said, "The NDMA has nominated a team comprising key officials of NDMA, UNICEF and others who will work in coordination with state nodal as well as district nodal and collect data to compile a report which will be submitted to the NDMA."

"The NDMA-led team has identified areas such as tourism, education, housing rehabilitation, public buildings, and local level infrastructure for disaster risk reduction in these areas," District Magistrate Khurana gave this information.

On Saturday, a 16-member team led by NDMA joint secretary Kunal Satyavrati arrived at the Jollygrant airport in a chartered flight. A brief meeting was held here under the chairmanship of Satyavarti. Secretary Disaster Management Dr. Ranjit Sinha, Additional Secretary Savin Bansal, Executive Director Dr. Piyush Rautela and officials of many other departments were present in this meeting. About 10 state officials from Jollygrant also joined the team.

The team will stay in Joshimath till April 25 and on the basis of this report, the relief package of ₹2,942 crores, sought by the state government will be finalized.

KASHYAP REPLACED

Rajiv Bindal is new Himachal BJP chief

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Chandigarh

VETERAN BJP leader and former Vidhan Sabha speaker Dr Rajiv Bindal was today appointed Himachal Pradesh BJP President, replacing Lok Sabha MP Suresh Kumar Kashyap.

Bindal, who belongs to Solan, was the state unit chief of the party before Kashyap was appointed state party president in 2020 as Bindal had resigned from his post following a Heath department scam. Bindal is confident of BJP national president Jagat Prakash Nadda. He has been a minister and assembly speaker and is seen as a solid organizational leader.

He is known for his organizational skills and election management. Bindal's return is an indication of Nadda's continued influence over party affairs. His appointment comes in a crucial election year as he would be expected to galvanise the party for the 2024 elections besides plugging gaps that led to the BJP's defeat last polls.

Pilot says will continue with agitation to protest graft during Raje regime

RAJESH ASNANI @ Jaipur

SENIOR Congress leader and former Deputy Chief Minister of Rajasthan Sachin Pilot has asserted he will continue with his agitation for action against the corruption of the previous BJP government. Speaking to the media in Jaipur on Sunday, Pilot said he will not back down from the stand he has taken against the state Congress government and has been "politely requesting" it to take action in corruption cases of the previous BJP government led by Vasundhara Raje.

Pilot also remarked that despite his fast on April 11, no action has been taken in these cases. "Speaking the truth, raising voice against corruption and injustice, is among the values of the Congress party. Following these values, I observed a one-day fast on April 11. Today, it's been two weeks, no action has been taken so far. So, again I politely request the government to fulfil the promises we had made to the people," Pilot told reporters after offering prayers at Jaipur's famous Jharkhand Temple on Sunday.

Pilot added that he greatly welcomes the action taken by the Anti-Corruption Bureau (ACB), which arrested several corrupt IAS, IPS, RAS and other officers.

He further said,"The Chief Minister himself had said that ACB is active and has raided several corrupt officers, which we all welcome. But, when he had come to power after being in opposition for five years, we never said that we would arrest a patwari or officer. We had said we will take action in the corruption cases that happened in Vasundhara Ji's tenure."

Significantly, Pilot wondered how demanding action against corruption is being termed as an 'anti-party activity'. Instead, he said that the September 25 incident when pro-Gehlot MLAs had boycotted the CLP meeting in Jaipur, was a virtual rebellion against Congress President Sonia Gandhi and the real damage to the party was due to that action of the MLAs last year.

Pilot also raised questions over the inaction against the pro-Gehlot leaders who had defied the party's high command in September 2022. "It is true that the incident that took place on September 25 was an open violation of the orders of our Congress President Sonia Gandhi. Mallikarjun Kharge and Ajay Maken were openly insulted. Why hasn't action been taken against them yet? The answer lies with the party," Pilot remarked as he once again asserted.

Pilot also argued that it was unfair to call his fast 'anti-party' and said "this is the first time that even before an event took place, it was declared so.

Countries begin evacuation amid gunfire in Sudan

KHARTOUM

FOREIGN governments evacuated diplomats, staff and others trapped in Sudan on Sunday as rival generals battled for a ninth day with no sign of a truce that had been declared for a major Muslim holiday.

While world powers like the US and UK airlifted their diplomats from the capital of Khartoum, Sudanese desperately sought to flee the chaos.

More than 420 people, including 264 civilians, have been killed and more than 3,700 have been wounded in the fighting between the Sudanese armed forces and the powerful paramilitary group known as the Rapid Support Forces (RSF).

After a week of bloody battles that hindered rescue efforts, US special forces swiftly evacuated 70 US Embassy staffers from Khartoum to an undisclosed location in Ethiopia on Sunday. Although American officials said it was too dangerous to carry out a government-coordinated evacuation of private citizens, other countries scrambled to evacuate citizens and diplomats.

Britain's PM Rishi Sunak tweeted that UK armed forces evacuated British diplomatic staff and their families "amid a significant escalation in violence...to embassy staff."

A convoy leaves Khartoum towards Port Sudan on Sunday as people flee the battle-torn Sudanese capital Khartoum | AFP

France, Greece and other European nations also organised an exodus. The Netherlands sent two Hercules C-130 planes and an Airbus A330 to Jordan to rescue 152 Dutch citizens who made their way from Sudan to an undisclosed evacuation point, but "not without risks," said Defence Minister. Meanwhile, both generals have accused the other of obstructing the evacuations. The Sudanese military alleged the RSF opened fire on a French convoy, wounding a French national. The RSF countered it came under attack by warplanes as French citizens and diplomats left the embassy for Omdurman.

Italy sent military jets to Djibouti in the Gulf of Aden to extract 140 Italian nationals from Sudan, many of whom took refuge in the embassy.

Dnieper river: Ukraine positions spark talks of counteroffensive

KYIV

UKRAINIAN military forces have successfully established positions on the eastern side of the Dnieper River, according to a new analysis, giving rise to speculation on Sunday that the advances could be an early sign of Kyiv's long-awaited spring counteroffensive.

The Institute for the Study of War, a US-based think tank, reported that geolocated footage from pro-Kremlin military bloggers indicated that Ukrainian troops had established a foothold near Oleshky, along with "stable supply lines" to their positions.

Analysts widely believe that if Ukraine goes ahead with a spring counteroffensive, a major goal would be to break through the land corridor between Russia and the annexed Crimean Peninsula, which would necessitate crossing the Dnieper River.

Responding to Ukrainian media reports proclaiming that the establishment of such positions indicated the counteroffensive had begun, Natalia Humeniuk, the spokeswoman for Ukraine's Operational Command South, called for patience. While neither confirming nor denying the ISW report, she said only that details of military operations in the Dnieper delta couldn't be disclosed for security reasons.

Speaking on Ukrainian television, Humeniuk added that it was "very difficult work" when "it's necessary to overcome an obstacle such as the Dnieper, when the front line passes through a...powerful river."

The Kremlin-installed head of the Kherson region, denied on Sunday that Ukrainian forces have established a foothold on the east bank of the Dnieper. *AP*

Russia claims more areas

On Sunday, Russian Defence Ministry spokesman Igor Konashenkov claimed Moscow's forces had captured two more neighbourhoods in the western part of Bakhmut, without providing further details or clarifying what areas were still in Ukrainian hands.

EXPRESS READ

Russia slams US after journos denied visas

Moscow: Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov on Sunday said Moscow "will not forgive" Washington for denying US visas to Russian journalists meant to accompany him on a visit to UN headquarters. "We won't forget, we will not forgive this" said Lavrov, who will chair several United Nations Security Council meetings in New York. Lavrov denounced a "stupid" failure of the United States to give visas to Russian journalists. "A country that calls itself the strongest, smartest, freest and fairest, chickened out," Lavrov said.

21 bodies dug up in cult investigation in Kenya

Nairobi: Twenty-one bodies have been found so far on land owned by a pastor in coastal Kenya who was arrested for telling his followers to fast to death. Malindi sub-county police chief John Kemboi said more shallow graves have yet to be dug up on the land belonging to pastor Paul Makenzi, who was arrested on April 14 over links to cultism.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Public is hereby informed that We **M/s. NORTHLAND HOLDING COMPANY PVT. LTD.**, a Company incorporated under the Companies Act, 1956, with its Registered Office presently at: 'Prestige Falcon Tower', No.19, Brunton Road, BANGALORE - 560025 are the owners of lands comprised in Survey Sy.Nos.15 to 19 and 21 to 28 of Kottigethimmanahalli Village, Kundana Hobli, Devanahalli Taluk. We hereby inform the original sale deeds as listed below in respect of the Schedule lands are not traceable and inspite of our best efforts, we are unable to retrieve the same till date. In this regard, we have lodged a complaint online with the Karnataka State Police on 02/11/2022 vide Sakala Application No.PO012S220004178. If any one were to trace the said original title deeds, they are called upon to deliver the same to the undersigned within a period of **fifteen (15) days** from the date of this notice. If any person/s were to deal with the said original title deeds other than with the aforesaid owner, such transactions will not bind the aforesaid owner or the Schedule Property and such person/s will be doing so at his/her/their own risk and cost and further appropriate legal proceedings will be initiated against such person/s.

a) Sale Deed dated:04/01/1993 executed by **Mrs.Ilse Jagtiani** in favour of **M/s.Garden City Resorts,** which has been duly registered as Document No. 1771/1992-93 in Book I, Volume 1468, pages 97 to 111 with the Sub-Registrar, Devanahalli by means of which the aforesaid M/s.Garden City Resorts purchased commercially converted land totally measuring 35 Acres 31.5 guntas (being 50% undivided share, right, title and interest in total land measuring an extent of about 71 Acres 23 guntas) comprised in Sy.Nos.15 to 19 and 21 to 28 of Kottigethimmanahalli Village, Kundana Hobli, Devanahalli Taluk.

b) Sale Deed dated:15/03/1993 executed by **Mrs.Khushi Gopaldas Jagtiani** in favour of **M/s.Garden City Resorts,** which has been duly registered as Document No.280/1993-94 in Book I, Volume 1481, pages 43 to 57 with the Sub-Registrar, Devanahalli by means of which the aforesaid M/s.Garden City Resorts purchased commercially converted land totally measuring 35 Acres 31.5 guntas (being 50% undivided share, right, title and interest in total land measuring an extent of about 71 Acres 23 guntas) comprised in Sy.Nos.15 to 19 and 21 to 28 of Kottigethimmanahalli Village, Kundana Hobli, Devanahalli Taluk.

M/s. NORTHLAND HOLDING COMPANY PVT. LTD.,
Prestige Falcon Tower, No. 19,
Brunton Road,
BANGALORE-560 025
Bangalore Date : 24-04-2023

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IN THE COURT OF THE CITY CIVIL JUDGE AT BANGALORE

P & S.C. No. 773/2021

Between : 1. B.K. GIRIJA SHANKAR, S/o. Late B.R. Krishnaiah Setty & Late. B.K. Jayalakshmi. Now aged about 70 years, Residing at #25, 2nd Cross, Paradise Colony, Motappa Compound, Puttenahalli, J.P. Nagar 7th Phase, Bangalore - 560078.

2. B.K. KALYAN SHANKER, S/o. Late B.R. Krishnaiah Setty & Late. B.K. Jayalakshmi, Now aged about 59 years, Residing at #66/3, 18th Cross. 9th Main, 3rd Block, Jayanagar, Bangalore - 560 011. **...Petitioners**

AND: Nil ...Respondent

PUBLIC NOTICE

WHERAS, the above named Petitioners have made petition to this Court under Section 372 of Indian Succession Act, for the grant of Succession Certificate, in respect of shares mentioned below in the Schedule A & B as held by late. B.R. KRISHNAIAH SETTY (father of the petitioners) who expired on 13/07/2020 at Bangalore & B.K. JAYALAKSHMI (mother of the petitioners) who expired on 10/10/1992 at Bangalore.

Interested persons are hereby called upon to appear before this Court in person or through pleader duly instructed **on 15.06.2023 at 11.00 a.m.** to show cause against the Petition failing which the case will be decided as Ex-Parte.

SCHEDULE 'A'
Shares held by late B.K. JAYALAKSHMI (mother of Petitioners)

Sl. No.	Company Name	Folio No.	Quantity
1	Hindustan Unilever Ltd.	2806156	270 of Rs.1/-
2	EIH Ltd.	086646	120
3	State Bank of India	07302390	132

SCHEDULE 'B'
Shares held by late B.R. KRISHNAIAH SETTY (father of Petitioners)

Sl. No.	Company Name	Folio No.	Quantity
1	Gulf Oil Corporation Ltd.	0001150	120
2	Gulf Oil Lubricants India Ltd.	GOL0025361	120

Given under my hand and seal of the court on this 21.04.2023.

By Order of the Court, Assistant Registrar, City Civil Court, Bangalore.

Advocate for Petitioners :
SATHYANARAYANA GOPAL RAO, Advocate
#142/3, 1st Floor, Shiva Complex, 5th Main, Chamarajpet, Bangalore - 560018.
Mob : 9342648524 / 9342926437

BHARATIYA RESERVE BANK NOTE MUDRAN (P) LIMITED
(Wholly owned subsidiary of Reserve Bank of India)
P.O.: RBNML, Salboni - 721132, Paschim Medinipur, West Bengal
Phone No. 03227-280176 / 280317; Fax No. 03227-280744 / 280222

OPEN TENDER ENQUIRY (OTE)/NATIONAL COMPETITIVE BIDDING (NCB)

Tenders under Two Part bidding system are invited for the following:-

1. **E-TENDER THROUGH MSTC PORTAL FOR SUPPLY OF SHRINK FILM POLYOLEFIN FOR BPS X9 AT BRBNMPL, SALBONI & MYSURU PRESSES; MSTC EVENT NO. BRBNMPL/SALBONI PRESS/MMD/1/23-24/ET/1 [SHRINK FILM POLYOLEFIN]; BRBNMPL TENDER NO. 003/SAL/PUR/2023-24; [ESTIMATED COST – ₹77.31 LAKH] (Tender to be downloaded and submitted online through MSTC portal only)**
2. **OPERATION & MAINTENANCE OF AC PLANT WITH ASSOCIATED EQUIPMENT AND COMPRESSED AIR SYSTEM AT BRBNMPL, SALBONI; TENDER NO. 001/SAL/MMD-MAINT/2023-24 [ESTIMATED COST - ₹93.00 LAKH]**

Last date of submission of the above tender is 26.05.2023 by 11:30 Hrs. For downloading tender documents and other details, kindly visit website **www.mstcecommerce.com** for Sl. No. 1 and **www.brbnmpl.co.in** for Sl. No. 2. Further extension or amendment/s, if any, shall be uploaded on our website only.

Chief General Manager

IN THE COURT OF THE XI ADDL. CITY CIVIL AND SESSIONS JUDGE AT BANGALORE (CCH-8)

P & SC. No. 795 / 2022

BETWEEN : Praful P. Babu, S/o Late K.Y. Paramashiv, Aged about 66 years, R/at No. 43, Govinda, 1st Floor, 6th Main, 5th Cross, KSRTC Layout, Chikkalsandra, Near SBM, Bangalore South, Bangalore 560061. **...Petitioner V/s: NIL ...Respondent**

PUBLIC NOTICE

Whereas the Petitioner named above has instituted the above petition under section 372 and 373 of the Indian Succession Act, 1925, for grant of succession certificate in favour of the petitioner, in respect of schedule mentioned below. The below mentioned schedule was held by Late K.Y. Paramashiv who is the father of the petitioner herein who expired on 24/11/1979.

Interested parties are hereby called upon to appear before this Hon'ble court in person or by a pleader duly instructed **on 30/5/2023 at 11.00 am** before the XI ADDL. CITY CIVIL AND SESSIONS JUDGE AT BANGALORE (CCH-8) to show cause against the petition filed by the Petitioner Failing which the matter will be heard and declared as Ex-parte.

SCHEDULE

The shares held by Late K. Y. Paramshiv under Folio No. K31226 in L & T Ltd and Ultratech Cement Ltd. are as follows :

Folio No. K31226	Certificate No.	Cert. Shares	Dist From	Dist To
Unit : L & T Ltd	157886	167 (Demerger 2004)	9334916	9335082
	289849	167 (Bonus 2006)	146114099	146114265
	400532	334 (Bonus 2008)	583466644	583466977
	486597	334 (Bonus 2013)	623387701	623388034
	1384432	501 (Bonus 2017)	1399807946	1399808446
Unit: Ultratech Cement Ltd	157304	133	37464155	37464287

Given under my hand and seal of this Hon'ble court on this 12.4.2023 at Bangalore.

By order of the Court, Assistant Registrar, City Civil Court, Bangalore.

Advocate address : **DN Mamata**
No. 160, 5th Cross, BHCS Lyt, Uttarahalli, Bangalore - 560061.

Aptus Finance India Private Limited
8B, Doshi Towers, 205, Poonamalle High Road, Kilpauk, Chennai-600 010.Telephone: 044-4565 0003

Possession Notice Appendix IV (rule8 (1) of the SARFAESI Act

Whereas, the undersigned being the authorized officer of **Aptus Finace India Pvt Limited** under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of powers conferred under Section 13(2) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 issued **Demand notice dated 26-09-2022 calling upon the borrowers 1.Naveena, 2.Shwetha & 3.Sri.Susheelamma to repay the amount mentioned in the notice being for SME Loan Loan No: TRMNGR0009732 of Rs.5,00,435 /(Rupees Five Lacs Four Hundred Thirty Five Only)** within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice.

The borrowers having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the borrowers and the public in general that the undersigned has taken **"Symbolic Possession"** of the property described herein below in exercise of the powers conferred on him/her under Section 13(4) of the said Act read with Rule 8 of the said rule **on this 20th day of April, 2023.**

The borrowers in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of **Aptus Finance India Pvt., Limited for an amount of Rs.516256/- Rupees Five Lacs Sixteen Thousand Two Hundred Fifty Six Only) as on 08-11-2022** and interest thereon.

The borrower's attention is invited to provisions of Sub-Section (8) of Section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets

Description of the Immovable property:-

All that piece and Parcel of the Property at All that piece and parcel of the immovable property bearing Site No.200 formed in Sy.No.43 and 44/1 of Srigandhakavalu Village Yeshwanthpura Hobli Bangalore North Taluk Presently comes under the limits of BBMP Bangalore Ward No.129 measuring East to West 36 feet and North to South 21 feet and **bounded on: North By:** House no: 198 belongs to Shivalingaiah, **South By:** House no: 201 belongs to Narayan,
East By: House no: 199 belongs to Rajanna, **West By:** Road.

Date: 20.04.2023 **Sd/- Authorised Officer**
Place: Bangalore **Aptus Finance India Private Limited**

Possession Notice (For Immovable Property) Rule 8-(1)

Whereas, the undersigned being the Authorized Officer of **IIFL Home Finance Limited** (Formerly known as India Infoline Housing Finance Ltd.) (IIFL-HFL) under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act 2002 and in exercise of powers conferred under section 13(12) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002, a Demand Notice was issued by the Authorised Officer of the company to the Borrower/Co-Borrowers mentioned herein below to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the borrower and the public in general that the undersigned has **taken possession** of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him under Section 13(4) of the said Rules. The borrower in particular and the public in general are hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of **IIFL HFL** for an amount as mentioned herein under with interest thereon."The borrower's attention is invited to provisions of sub-section (8) of section 13 of the Act, If the borrower clears the dues of the **"IIFL HFL"** together with all costs, charges and expenses incurred, at any time before the date fixed for sale or transfer, the secured assets shall not be sold or transferred by **"IIFL HFL"** and no further step shall be taken by **"IIFL HFL"** for transfer or sale of the secured assets.

Name of the Borrower(s) /Co-Borrower(s)	Description of the Secured Asset (Immovable Property)	Total Outstanding Dues(Rs.)	Date of Demand Notice	Date of Possession
Mrs. Deviramma B Mr.Pramod B Prs Group (Prospect No 979151)	All that piece and parcel of Property Bearing:-Site No 63, Land Area Ad Measuring 600 Sq. Ft.,Carpet area Ad Measuring 600 Sq. Ft., And Built Up Area Ad Measuring 990 Sq. Ft., Khata No 189, Assessment no 26:5, Herohalli Village, YeshwantpuraHobli, Yeshwanthpur Bazar, Bangalore, 560022, Karnataka, India. Bounded By:North: Site No 64 , South: Site No. 63 Remaining Portion, East: Site No.84 , West: 30Feet Road.	**Rs.36,60,474/-** (Rupees Thirty Six Lakh Sixty Thousand Four Hundred Seventy Four Only)	21-Jan-2023	20-Apr-2023
Mr. Raj Kumar Mrs.Sharadamma R Mr.Sridhara G R (Prospect No 937116)	All that piece and parcel of :House in Property No. 22, Land Area 1200 sq. ft., Present Khata No. 72, Khata Sl No. 77, Old Khata No. 50, Survey No. 30, Chunchanakuppe Village, TavarekereHobli, Bangalore South Taluk, Karnataka, India-560076. Bounded by:East: Property No. 35, West: Property No. 19, North: Property No. 21, South: Road	**Rs.12,50,502/-** (Rupees Twelve Lakh Fifty Thousand Five Hundred Two Only)	17-Jan-2023	20-Apr-2023

For, further details please contact to Authorised Officer at **Branch Office: "ADAM CHAMBERS," #11, Richmond Road, Bengaluru-560025** or **Corporate Office:** Plot No.98, Phase-IV, Udyog Vihar, Gurgaon, Haryana.

Place: Bangalore , Date: 24-04-2023 Sd/- Authorised Officer, For IIFL Home Finance Ltd.

Union Bank of India ASSET RECOVERY BRANCH
2/3, Raja Building, N.R Road, Bengaluru -560 002.
Contact No: 8369255990, 9611045818 E-mail: ubin0555991@unionbankofindia.bank

APPENDIX-IV-A

[See Proviso to Rule 8(6) of Security Enforcement Rules, 2002]
Notice of 30 days for sale of immovable secured assets under Rule 8 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002.

E-auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Assets under The Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002, read with the provision of Rule 8(6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002, Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower(s) mentioned below that the below described immovable property mortgaged/charged to the Secured Creditor, the **Possession** of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of **Union Bank of India, Asset Recovery Branch, Bengaluru** concerned branches. Secured Creditor will be sold on **" As is where is", " As is what is " and " whatever there is"** basis, by Public E-Auction on **25.05.2023, 11:00 AM to 4:00 PM** for recovery of dues as mentioned below together with future interest and legal other expenses due to the bank/Secured Creditor from respective borrowers. The Reserve Price for Property, the Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) and Description of Property etc., are given below.

Sl. No.	Name and Address of the Borrower/Mortgagor/ Guarantor	Description of immovable secured assets to the Property	Amount Due	Reserve Price	EMD Amount
1	**1. Mr. K Narasa Raju** No. 42/6, 6th Main, Sarakki, JP Nagar, 1st Phase, Bangalore -560078. **2. Mrs.. K N Pushpa** W/o K Narasa Raju No. 42/6, 6th Main, Sarakki, JP Nagar, 1st Phase, Bangalore -560078. **3. Mr. Thejas N,** No.42/6, 6th Main, Sarakki, JP Nagar, 1st Phase, Bangalore - 560078. **4.Mr. Yuvraj Kumar N** No. 42/6, 6th Main, Sarakki, JP Nagar, 1st Phase, Bangalore -560078	**Schedule A Property:** All the piece and parcel of the property at Site No. 42, Khatha no. 52/3, PID No. 57-249-6 , Situated at Sarakki Village, Sarakki Village Panchayat, Uttarahalli Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk, Bengaluru- 560078 measuring East to West 40 feet, North to south 30 Feet Totally measuring 1200 sq. feet. Bounded by the following: East By: Property No. 41, West By: Road, North By: Property No. 33, South By: Property no. 45.	**Rs. 1,21,76,860.04 (Rupees One Crore Twenty One Lakhs Seventy Six Thousand Eight Hundred Sixty and Four Paisa Only) as on 31/03/2023**	**Rs. 1,87,70,000/- (Rupees One Crore Eighty Seven Lakhs and Seventy Thousand Only)**	**Rs. 18,77,000/- (Rupees Eighteen Lakhs and Seventy Seven Thousand Only)**
2	**1. Mr. Sreedhar S** No.17, Flat No. 002, Gound Floor, 1st Cross, Vijaya Sree Layout, Kodichikkanahalli, Bangalore- 560078 **2) Mr. Bharath Kumar** Flat No. T-4,Prabhavathi Lotus Apartment, Lake City Layout, Kodichikkanahalli, Bangalore- 560078	**Schedule A Property:** All the piece and parcel of a Portion of land bearing Sy.No. 192, measuring 32,670 Sq. feet (0-30 guntas) (vide Conversion Certificate bearing No. ALN. (SB)SR/131/10-11 dated 18.02.2011 issued by the Special Deputy Commissioner, Bangalore District, Bangalore out of 0-39 guntas of converted land and total extent of land being 2 acres 34 guntas) situated at Begur Village, Begur Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk, now under the limits of Bruhat Bangalore Mahanagara Pallike and bounded as follows: East By: Remaining protion of same land bearing Sy.No. 192, West By: Boundary/Border Line of Hongasandra, North By: Road and remaining portion of same lan bearing Sy.No. 192. South By: Halla and Land bearing Sy.No. 236 **Schedule B Property:** All that piece and parcel of the Flat No. C-104, on Fourth Floor in the Block C having the super built area of 1000sq. feet with an undivided 93 sq.feet of share, right, title and interest in the land One Hall, kitchen, Two Bedrooms, Two toilets cum bathrooms being the part of the apartment building known as 'PRABHAVATHI BLISS' under construction on the Schedule 'A' Property with RCC framed structure, Concrete Block Masonry, Main door Teak frame and Steam Breach Veneered Flush shutter and roll doors sal wood with water proof flush shutters, Power coated aluminum windows with glass and safety grills, Ceramic Flooring etc., and bounded as follows: East By: Private Property, West By: Corridor, North By: Open Space, South By: Flat No. C-402 .	**Rs.39,97,437.72 (Rupees Thirty Nine Lakhs Ninety Seven Thousand Four Hundred Thirty Seven and Seventy Two Paisa Only) as on 31/03/2023**	**Rs. 38,81,000/- (Rupees Thirty Eight Lakhs and Eighty One Thousand Only)**	**Rs. 3,88,100/- (Rupees Three Lakhs Eighty Eight Thousand and One Hundred Only)**
3	**1. M/s Adtec Electronic Instruments Private Limited**, #563/1, Prerana Towers, Ranka Colony Road, Bilekahalli, Off-Bannerghatta Road, Bangalore- 560076 **2. Mr. Paritosh Dandriyal,** A 1102, Prestige Notting Hill, Bannerghatta Road, Opp. Meenakshi Timple, Kalena Agrahara, Bangalore- 560076. **3. Mr. S.N. Somasekhar,** S/o Nagasubramanian, #40, Ground floor,Ramanashree layout, Ranka Colony Road, Bilekahalli, Bannerghatta Road, Bangalore- 560076 **4. Mr. Jandhyala Ravi Kiran,** S/o Jandhyala Dakshina Murthy, FF2, Dumez apartments, Shivpuri Colony, Malkajgiri, Hyderabad- 500047. **Also at:** Plot No 85, Lane no 3, Lake View Enclave, Dammaiguda, Hyderabad- 500083. **5. M/s Advanced Sierra Electro tech Pvt Ltd,** No 563/1, Prerana Towers, Ranka Colony, Off-Bannerghatta Road, Bangalore- 560076 **6. Mr S.N. Ravichandra,** S/o Naga subramanian, #609, 11th cross, 5th Main, 3rd Phase, J.P. Nagar, Bangalore- 560078 **7. Ms. Priya Ravichandra,** W/o S.N. Ravichandra, #609, 11th cross, 5th Main, 3rd Phase, J.P. Nagar,Bangalore- 560078	**Schedule of the Property:** All that piece and parcel of the Property bearing Site no 22, Present BBMP Khatha no 157/696/22, formed in Converted land bearing Sy no 34, situated at Kalena Agrahara Village, Begur Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk, BENGALURU Measuring East to West: 36 feet and North to South: 115'+113'/2 feet in all measuring 4110 sq. ft and bounded on the: East by: Portion of property bearing Site no. 22 sold to Samruddhi developers West by: Remaining portion of the land bearing Sy. No. 34, North by: Private property in Sy. No. 33/2 and 33/3, South by: 40 feet Road.	**Rs. 1,26,67,918.56/- (Rupees One Crore Twenty Six Lakhs Sixty Seven Thousands Nine Hundred Eighteen and Fifty Six Paisa Only) as on 31/03/2023**	**Rs. 2,89,75,000. 00/- (Rupees Two Crore Eighty Nine Lakhs Seventy Five Thousands Only)**	**Rs. 28,97,500/- (Rupees Twenty Eight Lakhs Ninety Seven Thousands Five Hundred Only)**
4	**1) Mr Amaresh Nanda, 2) Mrs Lucky Lenka, both are resident at** Flat No.A-104, Ground Floor, Definer Serene Drive Apartments, Property bearing No.102/2, Pethanahalli Village, Kasaba Hobli, Hoskote Taluk, Bangalore-Rural.	**Schedule "A" Property:** All the property measuring Two acres in Sy.No.102/2, situated in Pethanaballi Village, Kasaba Hobli, Hoskote Taluk and duly converted for non-agricultural residential purposes by the order of the Deputy Commissioner ,Bangalore Rural District, Bangalore which bears No. ALN(H)SR/207/05-06 dated 18/02/2006 and bounded by:- East : Remaining portion of land in Sy.No.102/2 belonging tp Sri Munivenkatappa and Sri Rajanna; West: Property belonging tp Sri Munishamappa; North: Road and; South: Property belonging to sri Narayanaswami. **Schedule "B" Property: (Description of the apartment and undivided share hereby conveyed)** All that residential Apartment bearing No. A-104 in ground floor Of Block 'A' of the project "DEFINER SERENE DRIVE" and apartment measuring 756 Sq. Feet of built up area and 189 Sq. Feet of proportionate share in common areas such as passages ,lobbies ,lifts ,staircases and other areas of common use and totally measuring 945 Sq. Feet of super Built-up area approximately with one covered car parking space in the basement floor , together with 425 Sq. Feet undivided share ,right, title ,interest and ownership in the schedule "A" property and apartment is bounded by: East: Lobby in 'DEFINER SERENE DRIVE' West: Open towards sky in ' DEFINER SERENE DRIVE' North: Apartment bearing No. A-103 in ground floor Of Block 'A' in 'DEFINER SERENE DRIVE" South: open towards sky in in 'DEFINER SERENE DRIVE' The walls are built out of brick and cement and vitrified/ceramic flooring and R.C.C Roofing. It has electricity, water and sanitary connections. The wood used is Honne/Teak.	**Rs. 33,10,974.96 (Rupees Thirty Three Lakhs Ten Thousands Nine Hundred Seventy Four and Ninety Six Paisa Only) as on 31/03/2023**	**Rs. 29,10,000/- (Rupees Twenty Nine Lakhs Ten Thousands Only)**	**Rs. 2,91,000/- (Rupees Two Lakhs Ninety One Thousands Only)**
5	**Mr.Asadulla Shariff** S/o Azeezulla Shariff 94/1, Mahadevaraya Mudaliar Road, Frazer Town, Bangalore-560005.	**Schedule of the Property:** All that piece and parcel of commercial property bearing No.94/1, New Municipal No. 94/1, PID No.91-02-94/1,M M Road, Frazer Town, Presently known as Madhavraya Mudaliar Road, Bangalore. Land Measuring: 1664.36 Sq ft and bounded on: East By : Noorulla Shariff's Property, West By : Property No. 101, North By: Road, South By: Abdulla's Property.	**Rs. 22,73,762.59 (Rupees Twenty Two Lakhs Seventy Three Thousand Seven Hundred Sixty Two and Fifty Nine Paisa Only) as on 1/03/2023**	**Rs. 2,45,14,200/- (Rupees Two Crore Forty Five Lakhs Fourteen Thousand Two Hundred Only)**	**Rs. 24,51,420/- (Rupees Twenty Four Lakhs Fifty One Thousand Four Hundred and Twenty Only)**
6	**Mr. Mithun J** (Since deceased representing by his Legal Heir Mrs. Padma W/o Late Mithun J and any other Legalheirs) **Mrs. Padma M** W/o Late Mithun J, No. 156/A, 1st Stage, West of Chord Road, 3rd Phase, Manjunath nagar, Bangalore -560079. **Also At: Mrs. Padma M,** No. 571 53rd Cross, 3rd Block , Rajajinagar, Bangalore,560010. **Mrs. Padma M** No 121, 34th Cross, 2nd Main, 2nd Block, Jooganahalli, Rajajinagar, Bangalore 560010. **Mrs. Padma M** Site No 13, Western portion, 3rd C 1st Cross, Ramaiah Garden, Sir M V Nagar, Koudenahalli, Ramamurthynagar, K R Puram Hobli, Bangalore 560016.	**Schedule A:** All that piece and parcel of property bearing western portion of the Site no. 13 formed in property no. 119/2, old khatha no. 286/3/119/2, new khatha no. 1498, situated in Kowdenahalli krishnarajapura Hobli Bengaluru East Taluk, present BBMP Khatha no. 119/2/286/3, Sir M V Layout, R M Nagar, Bangalore measuring East to West 15 feet and north to South 46 ft in all measuring 690 sqft along with 400 sq ft of ground floor and 400 sq ft of first floor and bounded on East by: Remaining portion of same site no. 13 belongs to Smt. M. Selvi, West by : Site No. 14, North by : Private Property, South by : Road .	**Rs. 4169107.01 (Rupees Forty One Lakhs Sixty Nine Thousand One Hundred Seven and One Paisa Only) as on 31/03/2023**	**Rs. 43,00,000 (Rupees Forty Three Lakhs Only)**	**Rs. 4,30,000 (Rupees Four Lakhs Thirty Thousand Only)**
7	**M/s LUCKY PROVISION Stores, Prop: Mr Hanumantha,** No. 58, HAL Post, Reddy Palya, Vibhuthipura, K R Puram Hobli, Bangalore-East Taluk Bangalore 560017. Represented by its Proprietor:Mr Hanumantha	**Schedule of the Property:** All that piece and parcel of the property bearing site no. 58 situated at Reddypalya, Vibhuthipura, Krishnarajapura Hobli, Bangalore East Taluk Bangalore, now comes under BBMP limits, BBMP ward no. 87 Bangalore measuring East to West 47 feet , North to South 28 feet total measuring 1316 Sq ft along with ground, First, second and Third floor RCC roofed house constructed thereon, together with all the appurtenances whatsoever whether underneath or above the surface and bounded on as follows: East: Property of Venkatappa, West: property of Gangamma, North:Property of Annayyappa, South: Passage then Road.	**Rs. 50,44,646.13 (Rupees Fifty Lakhs Forty Four Thousand Six Hundred Forty Six and Thirteen Paisa Only) as on 31/03/2023**	**Rs. 83,38,800 (Rupees Eighty Three Lakhs Thirty Eight Thousands Eight Hundred Only)**	**Rs. 8,33,880/- (Rupees Eight Lakhs Thirty Three Thousands Eight Hundred Eighty Only)**
8	**1. M/s Shas Airborne Travels**. No. 41, Gold Tower, No. 50, Residency Road, Bengaluru – 560 025. **2. Mr. Zeeshan Ali Khan** S/o Mr. K. B Asadulla Khan, R/at No. 519, HBR 1st Stage, II Block, 4th Main Road, Bengaluru – 560 043. **3.Mr. Mukhtar Hussain Khan** S/o Mr. K H Abdul Jaleel Khan, No. 2, 1st Floor, Premises No. 16, 8th Main, LIC Colony 84/2, 3rd Block, East Jayanagar, Bengaluru-560 011. **4. Mr. Ayub Khan,** S/o Mr. Khader Mohiuddin, R/at No. 29/1, F Cross, New Guddadahalli, Bengaluru -560 026. **5. Mrs. Naseema,** No. 518, Old Masjid Road, Attibele Village, Anekal Taluk, Bengaluru-562 107. **6. Mrs. Faheem** W/o Mr. Mukthar Hussain Khan, No. 518, Old Masjid Road, Attibele Village, Anekal Taluk, Bengaluru -562 107. **Also at: Mrs. Faheema,** W/o Muktar Hussain Khan, No.129-2, Adigarakallahalli, Bidaraguppe, Bangalore -562107.	All that piece and parcel of Residential Property at Khaneshmari No. 310/2, Attibele Grama Panchayath Old Jenjer No. 577, New Jenjer No. 512, Attibele Village, Attibele Hobli, Anekal Taluk, Bangalore Rural District Measuring East to West 50 Ft and North to South 45 Ft along with the existing residential structure of Ground & 3 Floors and bounded on East by : Property of Gopal Reddy, West by : Conservancy, North by : Property of Mr. Munir Khan & Mr. Umedsab, South by : Municipal Road.	**Rs. 40,28,816.85 (Rupees Forty Lakhs Twenty Eight Thousand Eight Hundred Sixteen and Eighty Five Paisa Only) as on 31/03/2023**	**Rs. 98,85,000 (Rupees Ninety Eight Lakhs Eighty Five Thousand Only)**	**Rs. 9,88,500 (Rupees Nine Lakhs Eighty Eight Thousand Five Hundred Only)**

The above said properties will be sold by "Online". Online E-Auction will be held through web portal/website **www.mstcecommerce.com** on the date and time mentioned above with unlimited extension of 10 minutes. The intending bidders / purchasers required to register through **https://www.mstcecommerce.com/ auctionhome/ibapi/index.jsp** by using their mobile number and valid email:id. They are further required to upload KYC documents and Bank Details. The intended bidder may contact the **Branch Manager of Union Bank of India. Asset Recovery Branch, Contact No. 8437024555, 9611045818** for inspection of property and also visit the above mentioned website for ascertaining the details of auction.

STATUTORY 30 DAYS SALE NOTICE UNDER Rule 8(6) Rule 9(1) OF STATUTORY INTEREST (ENFORCEMENT) RULES, 2002

This mya also be treated as notice u/s 8(6) Rule 9(1) of Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 to the Borrowers and Guarantors of the said loan about the holding of E-Auction Sale on the above mentioned date.

Place: Bengaluru **Sd/- Authorised Officer**
Date : 21.04.2023 **Union Bank of India.**

QuoteExpress IF YOU'RE GOING THROUGH HELL, KEEP GOING › WINSTON CHURCHILL

₹8,643 cr have been infused in Indian equities by foreign portfolio investors so far this month on the reasonable valuation of stocks.

Choose right tax regime to minimise tax liability in FY24

Taxpayers should start their tax planning now and they should decide whether to opt for the new tax regime or the old one

SACHIN KUMAR @Mumbai

As we have entered the new financial year, it is the right time for income tax planning for the year ahead. This year's income tax planning is different from previous years' because Budget 2023 has made the new tax regime a default tax regime for the financial year 2023-24.

It means if the taxpayers do not opt in for the old tax regime, she/he will be taxed as per the new tax regime. Salaried individuals must begin their tax planning exercise this month itself and choose the appropriate tax regime for them. The decision should be made carefully as it will decide the amount you will pay as tax in the current year. It is crucial for taxpayers to determine their income and start tax planning in advance to minimise their tax liability for 2023-24.

"The new tax regime has been made the default regime this year. For the employed, if the taxpayers are not careful about declaring their intended tax regime to their employer at the onset of the financial year and within the declaration timelines of such employer, they would be covered under the new regime," Tapati Ghose, Partner, Deloitte India told TNIE. "This however, can be corrected subsequently while filing the tax returns if the taxpayer chooses to opt for the old regime," she added.

Choosing between old and new tax regime

The most important factor to keep in mind for income tax planning is the selection of an appropriate tax regime. There are several key factors to consider before you finalise the decision to select the tax regime.

"The option to opt for old or new tax regime would depend upon various factors such as the total income of the taxpayer, his intention to make investment, marginal slab rates applicable to him, exemptions and deductions available to such taxpayers, etc. Hence, the taxpayer needs to undertake an evaluation and accordingly, assess his income under both such tax regimes in order to choose the beneficial amongst both such regimes," Suresh Surana, Founder, RSM India- a tax consulting firm- said. Experts say that taxpayers should estimate their taxable income and determine the tax bracket applicable to them. It is advisable to determine the tax saving investments and expenses like home loan instalments, house rent, mediclaim, insurance, donation etc. which a taxpayer expects to incur during the year. "If the taxpayer is making a substantial investment in tax saving investments or incurring expenditure which can be claimed as deduction, then the old regime will prove to be beneficial. Alternatively, the new regime could prove beneficial to him," Anita Basrur, Partner, Sudit K Parekh & Co said.

DEDUCTIONS UNDER NEW TAX REGIME

Standard deduction of **₹50,000**

Interest on home loan on let out properties

Leave Encashment

Family pension

Employers' contribution to NPS

Contribution to Agniveer Corpus Fund

Exemption on voluntary retirement

Exemption on gratuity

EXEMPTION LIMIT IN OLD & NEW

The old tax regime offers an exemption limit of ₹2,50,000 to individuals with the highest tax slab rate of 30% applicable on income above ₹10 lakh. Under the new tax regime, salaried individuals and pensioners can claim the standard deduction of ₹50,000 from their salary/pension income.

Deductions and exemptions

After you have selected the appropriate tax regime, it's time to look at the deductions and exemptions available in old and new tax regimes. A taxpayer can calculate the net taxable income under the old tax regime after considering all the eligible deductions and exemptions and can know the tax liability. Once the taxpayer knows tax liability under the old and new regime, he can choose the regime under which the tax outgo is less.

"Apart from lower tax rates, the new tax regime is fairly simple to apply and less burdensome as there is minimal documentation to be maintained since there aren't many deductions/exemptions available. Further, the key driving factor for making an investment choice is no longer the tax reliefs the financial product offers. Some of the deductions/exemptions available in the new tax regime are the standard deduction, employer's contribution to National Pension Scheme(NPS), exemption pertaining to gratuity and leave encashment, etc," said Ghose.

While the old tax regime has enough room for claiming deductions against various allowances forming part of salary and also for specified investments and expenses such as Public Provident Fund (PPF), NPS, repayment of housing loan, payment of tuition fees, etc., the new tax regime may restrict certain benefits and exemptions.

The old tax regime offers an exemption limit of ₹2,50,000 to individuals with the highest tax slab rate of 30% applicable on income above ₹10,00,000. The new tax regime is wider in scope with its tax slab rates ranging from 0- 30% with exemption limit up to ₹3,00,000 and the highest tax rate of 30% is applicable on income above ₹15,00,000.

"Under the old tax regime resident individuals with total income up to ₹5,00,000 can claim a rebate of tax. However, from the start of 2023-24, taxpayers with total income up to ₹7 lakh may claim full rebate of tax. The highest rate of surcharge has been reduced from 37% to 25% under the new tax regime for total income exceeding ₹5 crore thus reducing the effective tax rate from 42.74% to 39%," said Surana.

Under the new tax regime, salaried individuals and pensioners can claim the standard deduction of ₹50,000 only from their salary or pension income. For family pensioners, a standard deduction of ₹15,000 will be available.

MONEY MATTERS

WHY YOU SHOULD KEEP EMOTIONS OUT OF GOLD INVESTMENT

FINANCIAL KNOWLEDGE

RAJAS KELKAR

(The author is editor-in-chief at www.moneyminute.in)

GOLD prices are at a record high in international and domestic markets. While the Reserve Bank of India data suggests a slowdown in demand for physical gold due to high prices, the debate over gold as an investment continues. Like equity assets, retail investors tend to think about buying gold when prices peak. It may not be a good idea.

Gold prices have doubled over the past five years. They struggled to reach that value. The world had to go through some significant upheaval due to the COVID-19 pandemic. There were supply chain disruptions in the world due to the US-China trade war in the beginning. Then, it was the war in Ukraine that fueled global inflation. Food and commodity prices have cooled off, but inflation remains a severe threat to the world. Additionally, a scare of the US's small and medium banking sector collapse pushed more towards gold. In such a situation, gold is considered a haven.

However, while investing, you need to focus on the future. A global pandemic is a once-in-a-lifetime event. It triggered a surge in gold prices as they languished at the same level for five years to 2018-19. If you believe the world will panic for the next five years or more, you should invest in gold. Major international institutions are discussing a slow and steady recovery for the world. India is considered a bright spot for economic growth.

The World Bank and the International Monetary Fund expect India's growth to be the fastest among major economies for several years. At the same time, new research from the Reserve Bank of India led by deputy governor Michael Debabrata Patra suggests that inflation will likely be lower. It argues that supply shocks pushed consumer price inflation to a high inflation regime. There are signs that it is now moving towards a low inflation regime. Excerpts of the research were published in the latest RBI Bulletin.

Gold buying intensifies in an era of high inflation. Many large institutional and high-net-worth investors use gold to hedge against a strong US dollar and high inflation in local economies. Gold prices moved nowhere between 2013 and 2018 as India lowered inflation to manageable levels from a peak of 13-14%. The RBI data for April 2014 shows that RBI had gold worth ₹61,982 crore. By April 2018, the gold held by RBI was ₹67,331 crore. By April 2023, RBI had gold worth ₹2,32,981 crore, a four-fold jump even when prices have only doubled. That shows RBI bought a lot of gold during the five years to April 2023.

Time your buying

If you are an investor in gold, you must time your buying into gold with the price cycle. You cannot get emotional and pile up gold at any price. Those who bought gold in 2013 have merely doubled the value of investment by 2023.

EXPRESS ILLUSTRATION

A lot of our connection with gold is associated with emotions. You buy gold during the festive marriage season, irrespective of the price. If you are an investor in gold, you must time your buying into gold with the price cycle. You cannot get emotional and pile up gold at any price. Those who bought gold in 2013 have merely doubled the value of their investment by 2023. In the meantime, the Sensex has more than tripled since 2013.

If you must invest in gold, keep a small portion of your portfolio allocated to gold. It was not just the RBI but many other central banks worldwide that bought gold when prices were stagnant. The press usually reports about such gold buying. You must keep track of announcements in the press about global central banks buying gold. Central banks like the RBI tend to buy more gold when they fear higher inflation in the economy and a pressure on their local currencies.

If you cannot track that information, you must understand that gold is a mere savings asset and a hedge against inflation risk. It may or may not be better than keeping cash or fixed deposits. Gold prices are driven by demand and supply and the perception of risk in the financial markets. You cannot build your financial well-being by merely accumulating gold. For long-term financial goals, you must regularly invest in equity assets as they are more rewarding than other asset classes.

MONEY-WISE

RISING INTEREST RATES AND STOCK MARKETS

FINANCIAL ADVICE

PV SUBRAMANYAM

writes at www.subramoney.com and has authored the best seller 'Retire Rich - Invest ₹40 a day'

YOU have surely heard during your MBA days about how interest rates and stock markets are inversely related, right? Let us break that myth today.

For over a decade, experts (especially the bears) felt that low interest rates were the principal reason why share markets were up. They said that the investors had no choice, but to seek higher risk to get higher returns! Even internationally, when interest rates went up, they were sure that the markets had to come down. This is wrong thinking. Interest rates don't rule the share markets.

This stems from the belief that bonds and shares are fighting for a share of one pile of money – and the money will go to the more favourable asset class.

On one side: bond yields, like Gilt 10-year rates, which are currently yielding about 7.5%. On the other: stocks' earnings yield – the inverse of the price/earnings ratio, (the earnings return shareholders would get forever if earnings and price remain constant.) is at 4%. Conventional wisdom holds stocks' earnings yield must reasonably exceed Treasury yields to be worth their volatility.

Excellent theory and our economists made us believe that. However, in real life, the INFLATION adjusted earnings grow over time when the economy does well. The equity markets go up anticipating this rise. So even though the market may go down in the immediate short run, in the longer run the market goes up – adjusting for the inflation!

In the longer run, businesses expand, innovate, collapse – and money gets re-allocated to more profitable avenues. Even today some companies like Coal India, Indian Oil Corporation etc. are available at dividend yields of 10% pa. This is of course to be tempered with the thought that there could be a capital loss in say 5 years, but as a standalone valuation, it surely looks attractive considering that the main shareholder is the government of India. Business-cycle volatility makes earnings yields especially prone to skew around market lows. Are we in a market low now?

No. I have my reservations about valuations and there is a lot of uncertainty about the Indian elections of 2024. I have my doubts because the share market looks forward, while the earnings are for the immediate past. Hence the projected PE for the markets is more important than the immediate past, especially, since the market looks forward. Analysts' earnings projections look a little lower if the immediate past has been a little low. That's human nature.

Let us take an American example of the recent past..

Take the case of the year 2000, in the United States, the average gap between 10-year Treasuries and the S&P 500 s earnings yield using projected earnings was 2.23 percentage points through its entire – near today's 1.89-percentage-point spread. US stocks didn't mind. They rose 121% in US dollars.

High bond yields don't hurt bull markets! Consider the US in the 1980s and 1990s. The US had a cracking bull market.

SHARE BUYBACK

IT firm Wipro to consider share buyback

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU
@ Bengaluru

IT services company Wipro on Sunday said that the board of directors will consider a proposal to buyback equity shares at a meeting to be held on April 26-27, 2023.

In a filing, it said the outcome of the board meeting will be communicated to the stock exchanges soon after conclusion of the Board meeting on April 27, 2023.

The company will report its quarterly earnings for Q4 FY23 on April 27.

The company's last share buyback was in 2021 when Azim Premji and promoter companies tendered 22.89 crore shares worth ₹9,156 crore. Wipro had said that 23.75 crore shares were bought back at a price of ₹400 per equity share. The company's shares ended 1.4% higher at ₹368 on the BSE on Friday.

More developed countries lining up for trade talks with India: Goyal

DIPAK MONDAL @ New Delhi

MORE and more developed countries are lining up to have free trade talks with India, Minister of Commerce, Industry and textile Piyush Goyal said in a media interaction in Rajkot on Saturday.

According to Piyush Goyal, while free trade talks with the UK and Canada are in advanced stage, the government is also negotiating with the 27-nation European Union. He informed that ministers of four EFTA countries -- Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway and Switzerland – are coming to meet him in Delhi on 26 April.

"The 6-nation Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) are also talking with the government to try and launch the free-trade talks," he said.

Goyal was interacting with the media after the Textiles Conclave during Saurashtra Tamil Sangamam in Rajkot on Saturday.

Responding to a query on how FTAs would help textile exporters, the minister said, "India was a big exporter of textiles but as the country grew and it became a developing country from a less developing country, we lost the benefit of duty-free exports in many developed countries and our products started attracting duties in those countries. Compared to that, Bangladesh, which continues to remain a less developing country, so they have access to those developed countries duty free."

'India lost the benefit of duty-free exports'

India was a big exporter of textiles but as the country grew and it became a developing country from a less developing country, we lost the benefit of duty-free exports in many developed countries, said Minister Piyush Goyal.

Goyal said that recognising these challenges, the government started free-trade talks with many developed countries.

Last year India finalised two FTAs – one with Australia and another with the UAE.

Under the 'Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat' Initiative, the Saurashtra Tamil Sangamam is being conducted in Gujarat from 17-30 April 2023 to celebrate the cultural links between Gujarat and Tamil Nadu. Goyal said that the two states traditionally have been textile manufacturing hubs, and with the opening up of PM Mitra Textile Parks in both states stand to gain from FDI and creation of world-class infrastructure.

DIGITAL BOOST

Arunachal's 336 villages get 254 4G towers

RAKESH KUMAR @ New Delhi

IN an attempt to connect the last mile in the country, the government on Saturday dedicated 254 4G towers to Arunachal Pradesh that will provide connectivity to more than 336 villages in the state. The towers will connect around 70,000 people with the fast internet, and among them are many villages that have remained unconnected since independence.

"Prime Minister Narendra Modi has given us a task to bring all villages into internet connectivity by March 2024. So that they can avail all digital facilities in the country," said telecom minister Ashwini Vaishnaw. The government has approved ₹36,000 crore to set up around 25,000 new towers in the country. The telecom minister also said that the roll out of 5G in India is faster than in any part of the world, and the world is taking note of it.

No proposal to regulate financial influencers: FM

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU
@ New Delhi

THE government has not received any proposal to regulate financial influencers on social media, Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman said on Sunday at an event in Karnataka's Tumakuru district. However, she also said that the Centre is working with other ministries to clamp down on ponzi apps.

She stated that seven out of 10 influencers are driven by some other considerations, while only three or four give objective advice. The Ministry of Finance along with the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeITY) and the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) are working together to clamp down on fraudulent apps offering financial solutions, Sitharaman said.

Financial influencers are all across there. A very strong sense of caution is required in each one of us. We have to be careful. It is our hard-earned money.

Nirmala Sitharaman, Finance Minister

"Many of these apps are ponzi. We, the Finance Ministry, MEITY and RBI are working together, clamping down on them like never before," she said while further adding that the government doesn't want people's hard-earned money to be looted by these apps. A Ponzi scheme is an investment fraud where new investors lose all their money and the existing investors get all the benefits.

"Financial influencers are all across there. A very strong sense of caution is required in each one of us to make sure that we do double checking, counter checking and talking with people. Don't go as a flock into something because somebody has gone and you should also go without your due diligence," she added. She stressed that people should be very careful as it is their hard-earned money.

Football tie abandoned after referee doused in beer

A third-tier soccer game in Germany was abandoned on Sunday after the referee was doused in beer by an angry fan at halftime. Relegation-threatened Zwickau's match against visiting Rot-Weiss Essen did not continue for the second half because referee Nicolas Winter had a cup of beer thrown in his face by a fan, who was apparently unhappy with his decision to send off a Zwickau player and award a penalty to Essen before halftime.

NO FIR AFTER 2 DAYS, ELITE WRESTLERS BEGIN PROTEST AGAIN

UJWAL JALALI @New Delhi

INDIA'S top wrestlers, including Olympic medallists Bajrang Punia and Sakshi Malik and double World Championships medallist Vinesh Phogat, on Sunday resumed their protest at the Jantar Mantar in the national capital after no action was taken on their complaints of sexual harassment against the Wrestling Federation of India chief Brij Bhushan Sharan Singh.

"The players have been repeatedly saying that they have been subjected to harassment. An FIR should have been lodged and an action must be taken against the accused. We are sitting here after putting everything — our game and our family's life on stake," Sakshi Malik said while speaking to the mediapersons. She said that for the past three months, they are passing through an "extreme mental torture" just to get justice for their fellow players.

"This is the question of the dignity of women players. Our girls bring medals at international levels and if they are not safe in this country then we can easily assume the condition of other girls," Malik said.

According to the protesting wrestlers, just two days ago, around six-seven women wrestlers had given a complaint of sexual harassment at the Connaught Place police station against Singh. However, they were peeved with the outcome so far as even after two days, no FIR was registered in the matter. The wrestlers also pointed out that the report of the oversight committee formed by the sports ministry too was not satisfactory. They said that, despite their repeated request, they have not been given audience by the sports minister.

"You too know that the person against whom we are fighting, how strong he is, we do not know who all are helping him. We are just demanding justice from the people and the top Court of this country," said Malik. The wrestlers have said that they will not leave Jantar Mantar until Singh is arrested as they continued their protest in the night as well.

Meanwhile, the Delhi Commission for Women (DCW) also received a complaint from the women wrestlers regarding their sexual harassment after which the women's body issued a notice to the Delhi Police asking it the reasons for the delay in registering an FIR.

"The complainant has stated that when she called SHO, Connaught Place to enquire about the status of the complaint on April 22, she was informed by him that no FIR has been filed and that action shall be taken on the complaint post Monday. She further stated that when she asked him for assurance that the FIR shall be filed by Monday, he answered that he could not guarantee the same," the Commission said.

The DCW further said that instead of an FIR being filed in the matter, some of the complainants and their family members have started getting phone calls enquiring about the identities of the complainants from an IPS officer posted in Department of Sports, MYAS. "It is very unfortunate that the women wrestlers are not able to register their FIR of sexual harassment. They have submitted complaints to Delhi Police, still no FIR has been registered. I have issued a notice to Delhi Police and have sought a report," DCW chief Swati Maliwal said.

She said that an FIR must be registered immediately and the accused must be arrested. "Action must be taken against police officers for failing to register their FIR even after passing of 2 days," the DCW chief added.

The sports ministry formed an oversight committee to look into the allegations of the protesting wrestlers in January. The OC, with Olympic and multiple World Championships gold medallist MC Mary Kom as its head, completed its hearing and had submitted the report to the sports ministry in March. However, even after three months, the ministry has not made the report public. While speaking to this daily recently, Bajrang had said they were not happy with the report.

Full story: newindianexpress.com

Getting chance to come in at No 4 on a regular basis, Maxwell making big impact with the willow for RCB this term

Royal touch: Max force to the four

Glenn Maxwell hit 44-ball 77 as Royal Challengers Bangalore edged Rajasthan Royals by seven runs on Sunday | VINOD KUMAR T

GOMESH S @ Chennai

GLENN Maxwell in the Indian Premier League is a vibe. In the past, watching him bat for two months a year during the summer has been a rollercoaster experience. He will reverse sweep someone in front of square before holing out to long off the very next ball. From dropping your jaw in one moment, you will be pulling your hair next. Such has been the reputation he had built from years 2015-2020 that every time he fails, the question of his value for the money franchise paid him props up on social media.

So much that it happened this season too, despite having scored over 1000 runs in his last 35 matches at an average of 36.79 while striking at 159.73 since he joined Royal Challengers Bangalore ahead of the 2021 season. The franchise had signed him up for ₹14.25 crore, and that had seemed to become the talking point each time he failed to deliver. Perhaps, a poor run that lasted several years along with the inexplicable frustration that comes with watching him get out playing a ramp shot or a reverse sweep or a ugly hoick against the spin off a leg-spinner could have be the reason.

That is in no way the reflection of the impact Maxwell has had in the IPL for RCB. The numbers tell as much. He was their leading run scorer in 2021 and third on the list the year after. His role in the middle-order is essentially the backbone of RCB's batting. In fact, one might even put their foot down and say he has taken forward the role that AB de Villiers had played for the team.

Come in at No 4, take on the bowling attack irrespective of the situation and dictate the direction in which the contest progresses. This No4 position is something that did not come to him easily. For far too long he was batting down the order before getting that role this year on a regular basis. To say that he is enjoying it would be an understatement. He has scored 194 runs from 94 balls at a strike rate over 200 in five innings in that position. "Whenever I've batted at No 4, I've generally played well. I think the pressure, the new ball swinging, it's a pretty familiar role that I played. Especially for Australia, I've played that role many a times. I think I have a really clear mindset, the role that I have to play," he had said after the match against Chennai Super Kings where he scored 76 runs from 36 balls.

On Sunday, he was in a tricky position when he came out bat at No 4 for RCB against Rajasthan Royals. Virat Kohli was out for a first ball duck, Shahbaz Ahmed, too, had gotten out to Trent Boult and RCB were 12/2 in the third over. Maxwell walked in and smashed the left-arm pacer for a boundary off the very first delivery he faced. He hit another four between point and third-man in the over and soon the momentum was back with RCB.

When R Ashwin came on, Maxwell took on the long-standing rival to hit a four and a six. The peak Maxwell moment came when he switched his stance to reverse sweep Yuzvendra Chahal for a six over point. Jason Holder, too, wasn't spared as Maxwell went past his fifty in no time. As has been the case for the better part of his career, Maxwell fell to what he does best — a reverse sweep off Ashwin that went straight to short-third man. He scored 77 runs from 44 balls before RCB crumbled in the last five overs where they added just 33 runs for five wickets.

RCB went on to win by seven runs and Maxwell was the Player of the Match. Maxwell will continue to play his reverse sweeps and judgements will be passed whenever he fails, but the value he adds is undeniable. For he is in fact one of the most valuable players on the field.

Brief scores: RCB 189/9 in 20 ovs (Maxwell 77, du Plessis 62; Boult 2/41) **bt** RR 182/6 in 20 ovs (Padikkal 52, Jaiswal 47; Patel 3/32).

Can Captials build momentum?

AFTER THEIR FIRST WIN OF THE SEASON, DELHI CAPITALS FACE SUNRISERS HYDERABAD TEST. A LOOK...

WARNER VS HYDERABAD

A match-up that was unthinkable a couple of years ago. He was the captain that brought SRH the trophy in 2016. As David Warner returns to Hyderabad, this time in different colours, he will have a point or two to prove in front of a crowd that has cheered for him for years.

TRIPATHI VS DELHI SPINNERS

Rahul Tripathi was one of the most consistent batters last year in the IPL. This year, however, he has not been able to make an impact on a regular basis. Against Delhi, he will be up against two quality spinners in Axar Patel and Kuldeep Yadav. Can he deliver?

WHAT HAPPENED TO MAYANK?

They have made him open, moved him down, but Mayank Agarwal hasn't clicked this season. A prolific spin-hitter, one of the valuable batters in the format, has struggled for consistency. How long before SRH look the other way for someone else to do the job.

Sunrisers Hyderabad vs Delhi Capitals, 7.30 PM Live on Star Sports and Jio Cinema

Rahane and Dube lift Chennai to No 1 spot

ENS @ Chennai

A swashbuckling innings from Ajinkya Rahane (unbeaten 71 from 29 balls), with a fitting supporting act from Shivam Dube (21-ball 50), helped Chennai Super Kings post the highest total of the season (235/4) against Kolkata Knight Riders at Eden Gardens in Kolkata on Sunday night. In reply, KKR managed only 186/8, falling short by 49 runs.

Devon Conway set the platform early on with a 40-ball 56 before Rahane and Dube took over. The duo came together at 109/2 and put together a stunning partnership of 85 runs from 32 balls, tearing apart the KKR bowlers. Rahane was in a zone where he was hitting at will almost every delivery irrespective of the bowler or the conditions. He hit six fours and five sixes and remained unbeaten till the end.

Dube, on the other hand, did his role to perfection, taking on the KKR spinners. He smashed Varun Chakravarthy, Suyash Sharma, David Wiese to the ropes. Such was the carnage that the ball was travelling a lot more in the air than it was on the ground. Suyash was the pick of the bowlers as he finished with 1/29 in four overs.

Ajinkya Rahane (L) & Shivam Dube were unstoppable on Sunday | SPORTZPICS

Brief scores: Chennai Super Kings 235/4 in 20 ovs (Rahane 71 n.o, Conway 56, Dube 50; Suyash 1/29) **bt** Kolkata Knight Riders 186/8 in 20 ovs (Roy 61, Rinku 53 n.o).

Spurs' top four bid in tatters after big loss vs Newcastle

AFP @ London

TOTTENHAM'S bid to qualify for the Champions League suffered a hammer blow as they conceded five times in the first 21 minutes of a humiliating 6-1 defeat at top four rivals Newcastle on Sunday.

Cristian Stellini's side were buried by an avalanche of goals from Jacob Murphy and Alexander Isak, who both netted twice, and strikes from Joelinton and Callum Wilson.

Harry Kane's reply was no consolation for woeful Tottenham, who look certain to miss out on a place in the Premier League's top four after a second successive loss.

The north Londoners are six points behind third placed Newcastle and fourth placed Manchester United, having played two more games than United and one more than Newcastle.

Fifth placed Tottenham host United on Thursday and a defeat against Erik ten Hag's team would surely end their faint hopes of salvaging their troubled campaign.

There is a bleak future ahead for Tottenham, who have no permanent manager lined up for next season and no director of football after Fabio Paratici's resignation on Friday.

Paratici stepped down after failing in his appeal against a 30-month worldwide FIFA ban for his involvement in allegations of false accounting at his former club Juventus.

Tottenham's heaviest defeat of the season was a new low for a club already in turmoil after Antonio Conte's departure by "mutual consent" in March after just 16 months in charge.

Conte had exposed the rifts behind the scenes at Tottenham when he called the players "selfish" and criticised the club's culture in an explosive rant after their draw at lowly Southampton. Tottenham haven't won a major trophy since 2008 and their latest setback could increase the chances of England striker Harry Kane asking to leave in the close-season.

Results: Bournemouth **0-4** West Ham; Newcastle **6-1** Tottenham.

Newcastle's Alexander Isak (L) rejoices scoring the fourth goal on Sunday | AP

Swiatek bags second straight Stuttgart title

AGENCIES @ Berlin

WORLD NO 1 Iga Swiatek defeated Australian Open champion Aryna Sabalenka in straight sets to win her second consecutive Stuttgart title on Sunday.

Swiatek eased past her second-ranked Belarusian opponent 6-3, 6-4 on the clay in one hour and 50 minutes.

A first tournament triumph since February will give Swiatek a confidence boost ahead of her French Open title defence in May.

Sunday's match was a repeat of last year's final in Stuttgart, which Swiatek also won in dominant fashion, 6-2, 6-2. She has now sat atop the WTA rankings for more than a year and is a red-hot favourite for another title at Roland Garros. The US Open champion broke serve late in the first set, taking advantage of an uncharacteristic miss from Sabalenka.

Archery WC: Recurve team clinches silver

AGENCIES @ Antayla

THE Indian men's recurve team signed off with a silver medal after going down to China by the thinnest of margins in a shoot-off at the Archery World Cup Stage 1, here on Sunday. In pursuit of their first World Cup gold medal since 2010, the men's recurve team, comprising Tarundeep Rai, Atanu Das and Dhiraj Bommadevara, bounced back from being 0-4 down to level and force a shoot-off.

But the trio went down 4-5 (54-55, 50-56, 59-58, 56-55, 28-28*) with the Chinese team of Li Zhongyuan, Qi Xiangshuo and Wei Shahoxu hitting an X (closer to the centre) in the shoot-off in a dramatic finish.

India now have two gold, one silver from Stage 1 of the meet, while Dhiraj is also in the medal hunt in recurve individual category.

EXPRESS READ

Lahiri finishes 2nd in Adelaide

ADELAIDE: A week after finishing second in Vietnam, Indian golfer Anirban Lahiri made a big dash in the final round of the Liv Series event here by finishing a creditable second again. Lahiri closed with seven-under to total 16-under. Talor Gooch, 31, who shot 62-62 on the first two days, dropped four shots in four holes in the middle of the round but held on to card of one-over 73 and win at 19-under by three shots.

FC Goa part ways with Carlos

GOA: FC Goa have parted company with head coach Carlos Pena. The Spaniard and his assistants, Gorka Azkorra, Eduard Carrera and Joel Dones will be leaving the club. Pena returned to the club as coach earlier this season after a storied time as a player. In his only season as the coach, he saw his side finish seventh in the ISL 2022-23 season. The Gaurs then went on to finish second in Group C of the 2023 Hero Super Cup.

Kiptum wins London Marathon

LONDON: Kenya's Kelvin Kiptum won the men's London Marathon in the second-fastest time in history while Sifan Hassan staged a remarkable rally to win the women's event in the Olympic track champion's first race over the distance. The 23-year-old Kiptum broke the course record with a time of 2 hours, 1 minute and 25 seconds. Mo Farah, in his last marathon before retirement, finished ninth in 2:10:28.

CWG REGIONAL MEET

India make case for inclusion of wrestling, archery & kabaddi

AGENCIES @ Brisbane

THE Indian Olympic Association (IOA) on Sunday made a strong case for the inclusion of archery, wrestling and kabaddi as regular sports in Commonwealth Games roster at CGF's Asia and Oceania regional meet.

While kabaddi has never been a part of CWG programme, shooting and archery are two disciplines where Indian athletes have had excellent performances in past editions before it was done away during previous Games in Birmingham.

The Indian delegation, led by IOA president PT Usha along with its acting CEO and joint secretary Kalyan Chaubey and executive council member Lt Gen Harpal Singh, met the Commonwealth Games Federation (CGF) president Dame Louise Martin and her team to discuss and deliberate topics for development of Indian sports with regards to the strategic plan being proposed by CGF.

"I welcome the steps taken on return of shooting in the 2026 Victoria Commonwealth Games. At the same time, we have sought the intervention of the CGF leadership to make archery, wrestling and kabaddi as part of the Games competition roster in future," Usha was quoted as saying in a media release. CGF and the Commonwealth Games Australia had earlier unveiled the full sport programme for Victoria 2026 CWG, featuring 20 sports and 26 disciplines, including nine fully integrated para sports.

Shooting returns at the 2026 CWG Games after being controversially dropped from the 2022 Birmingham edition.

Shooting has been India's strongest sport in the Commonwealth Games with 135 medals (63 gold, 44 silver and 28 bronze) till now. Wrestling is in third spot with 114 (49 gold, 39 silver and 26 bronze) medals. It yielded the most number of medals — 12 (6 gold, 1 silver, 5 bronze) at the Birmingham Games. The sport has been dropped from the 2026 edition after featuring in four successive Games since 2010. Archery, on the other hand, has featured only twice in the CWG — in 1982 and 2010 — and India stands second in the all-time medal tally for the sport. "Shooting has been India's strongest sport and its return in 2026 CWG is a welcome development for India. I'm sure that the inclusion of para-shooting will also add to India's medal tally," Chaubey said.

"I believe we have made a strong case for India to have wrestling and archery back at CWG. The wrestling results at Birmingham Games is a testimony of India's dominance in the sport with an all-time second best to Canada since the history of the Games."

next pick

LOOKING BEYOND MBBS

It's almost a decade since AYUSH has had its own ministry. The ripple effects of this stream's popularity are now evident in the field of medical education

WHILE registrations for NEET continue to rise, the popularity of AYUSH (Ayurveda, Yoga and Naturopathy, Unani, Siddha and Homoeopathy) and non-MBBS courses has increased simultaneously. Dr Vinayak Tembhurnikar, who serves as the National President of National Integrated Medical Association (NIMA), the largest organisation of AYUSH doctors, stated that recently, students who are registering for NEET have been showing equal enthusiasm for both AYUSH and MBBS courses.

Gaining more traction

"Over the last three years, there has been a significant rise in popularity of these streams. People have realised the importance of such courses, especially in wake of Covid," he said. "The government has also taken various initiatives to popularise these streams," the expert added. For example, the Centre's recent announcement to promote AYUSH treatment through health tourism.

Attributing growing acclaim of these courses to their affordability and acceptability when compared to MBBS, Dr Tembhurnikar said, "Modern medicine is still unaffordable in several rural areas, despite the government's efforts. Moreover, healthcare services are often inadequate in such areas. These streams are crucial in bridging this gap," suggesting that future medicos should opt for these streams to help fill this void.

Still in the medical realm

"I know candidates who have been trying for MBBS since four to five years. There are many options that they can consider such as BAMS (Bachelor of Ayurvedic Medicine and Surgery), that can lead to a career in the medical field," explained Gaurav Tyagi, Career counsellor.

AYURVEDA

With regards to Ayurveda, the government's support through initiatives like the Central Council for Research in Ayurvedic Sciences has been instrumental in its growth. Parents too are more aware of the career prospects it offers

Dr Anandu V, Asst Prof, Dept of Roga Nidana and Vikruti Vignana, Mandsaur Institute of Ayurveda Education and Research, Madhya Pradesh

Once a student gets a Bachelor's degree in Ayurveda Science, he is a valid doctor and can practice here after certifications. For clinical practices, they can opt for add-on courses. The scope is wide when it comes to the course

Dr Nagraj Kamath, Associate Professor, Department of Ayurvedic Physiology, SDM College of Ayurveda and Hospital, Karnataka

PHARMACY

There is a balance of opportunities in both government and private sectors hence, more students are gravitating towards pharmacy. I have noticed a rise in pharmacy courses over the last few years following a shift in healthcare opportunities and popularity of these courses

Prof Lalji Baldaniya, Professor and Principal, Faculty of Pharmacy, Marwadi University, Gujarat

Pharmacy graduates can earn attractive remuneration and can secure strategic positions. Like in the USA and Canada, pharmacists are regarded as knowledgeable and qualified drug experts for their advice on drug dosage incompatibilities and its side effects

Professor L Srinivas, GITAM School of Pharmacy, GITAM (Deemed-to-be University)

HOMOEOPATHY

About 80-85% of the market is for Allopathy, which is treating diseases but in reality, it is not curing them. While Allopathy is associated with instant results, Homoeopathy or Ayurveda results in a permanent cure. It is worth noting that MBBS doctors are prescribing Homoeopathy/Ayurveda medicine nowadays

Dr Rishikesh Nagar, Homoeopathy House Physician

In a decade, the image of Homeopathy will change. Irrespective of how much they are earning, students today are willing to choose Homoeopathy. For instance, one of my students who consistently scored high in her NEET mock tests is deeply passionate about pursuing a career in Homoeopathy

Dr Tarun Soni, AYUSH practitioner

NURSING

Nursing courses in the West offer ample scope like competitive pay scales, advanced technological adaptations and financial stability that is three to four times higher than in India. Many western institutions offer specialty nurse practitioner licenses/courses

Haritha Vijayan, GM, Department of Nursing, Krishna Institute of Medical Sciences, Telangana

Students prefer to opt for BSc Nursing because of the rise in number of opportunities and prospects that focus on the higher nursing fields. Prospects include bedside nursing, teaching, research, working in the corporate sector and MNCs

Anjana Dhall, President of Delhi Nursing School

DENTISTRY

Parents consider Dentistry as a secure career option for their children in medicine as BDS graduates can start their practice immediately after graduation, ensuring economic security. As it is a specialised course, graduates are eligible to establish their own practice

Dr P Karunakar, Principal, Panineeya Mahavidyalaya Institute of Dental Sciences, Telangana

Students and parents are becoming more educated and aware of the diversity in higher education today. They are beginning to see the importance of dental education. The reason for the shift in public perception when it comes to non-MBBS medical courses, particularly BDS, is more awareness

Dr Vasundhra Kaushik, Dental Surgeon

new path

Health and non-health related courses are gaining ground when it comes to popularity among students

Options you ought to know

According to the changing demands in the healthcare industry, many such courses are certainly going to be introduced very soon

GAURAV TYAGI, NEET EXPERT

Only about one lakh seats for over 21 lakh aspirants in medical colleges in India fuels not only competition but also fear. Experts caution that many students may obsess over taking a drop year even before attempting the National Eligibility cum Entrance Test Undergraduate (NEET UG) due to fear of failure and advise against this. Counsellors suggest that having a Plan B will help students get rid of this fear, resulting in better performance.

And students who are looking for a Plan B, meaning courses that they can pursue without NEET scores, have a lot of options in store. Manickavel Arumugam, student counsellor and expert on NEET, mentions that there are several government and private colleges in India which admit students to various trending health-related and non-health-related courses.

What are these courses, you ask?

These courses may not fall within the traditional scope of medical science, but they help students stay connected to their interests in the field. Gaurav Tyagi, another NEET expert, informs that several paramedical and BSc courses, having great scope in India and even abroad, have been emerging. For example, he speaks of Hospital Management, a course that is open to all. "Doctors are opting for this course even after their MBBS or MD. One can also study Commerce and opt for this course," he says.

News reports of states adopting these courses is a testament to the fact that these courses are gaining importance. About a month ago, the Odisha University of Health Sciences was established. In December 2022, allied health science courses were introduced in eight medical colleges in Telangana. In July, IIT Guwahati signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Mehta Family Foundation (MFF), USA, to establish the Jyoti and Bhupat Mehta School of Health Sciences and Technology.

ALTERNATE COURSE OF ACTION

FEW POPULAR AND IN-DEMAND ALLIED HEALTH SCIENCE COURSES

HEALTH-RELATED COURSES

- Bachelor in Audiology and Speech Language Pathology (BASLP)
- Bachelor of Physiotherapy (BPT)
- Bachelor in Neuroscience
- BSc in Radiography
- BSc in Clinical Nutrition
- BSc in Nutrition and Dietetics
- BSc in Medical Lab Techniques
- BSc in Accident and Emergency Care
- BSc in Physiotherapy
- BSc in Anesthesia

NON-HEALTH-RELATED COURSES

- BSc in Veterinary Science
- BSc in Fisheries Science
- BSc in Horticulture
- BSc in Microbiology
- BSc in Biotechnology
- BSc in Biochemistry
- BTech in Genetic Engineering
- BTech/BSc in Food Technology
- BTech/BSc in Agriculture Technology
- Bachelor in Molecular Biology

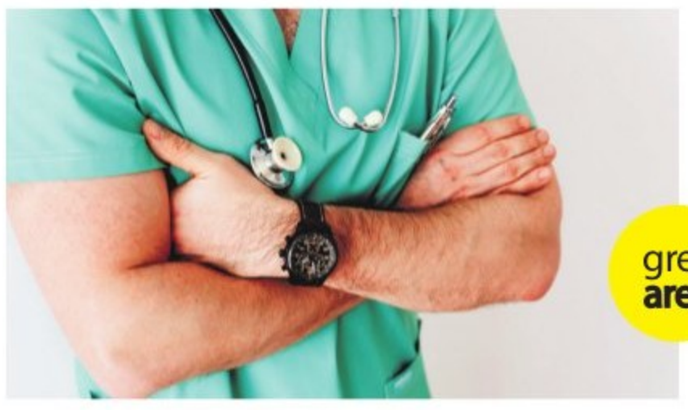
TOP 10 COLLEGES AS PER NIRF 2022 RANKING

TOP 10 COLLEGES OFFERING SOME OF THE ABOVE-LISTED COURSES IN INDIA, THAT ADMIT STUDENTS WITHOUT NEET SCORES, AS PER NIRF 2022 RANKING

Jamia Hamdard, New Delhi (Rank 1) | Panjab University, Chandigarh (Rank 3) | Birla Institute of Technology and Science, Pilani (Rank 5) | JSS College of Pharmacy, Ooty (Rank 6) | Institute of Chemical Technology, Mumbai (Rank 7) | JSS College of Pharmacy, Mysuru (Rank 8) | SVKM's Narsee Monjee Institute of Management Studies, Mumbai (Rank 11) | SRM Institute of Science and Technology, Chennai (Rank 12) | Amrita Vishwa Vidyapeetham, Coimbatore (Rank 14) | Annamalai University, Annamalai Nagar (Rank 15)

*Some colleges may conduct individual entrance exams or admit students on merit. NEET scores may be required for a few courses. Students are advised to check eligibility criteria

Beating exam stress with time-tested tactics and hacks



grey area

An issue that has been widely discussed yet not appropriately conceived or addressed by people alike is 'mental health'. Students have been experiencing bouts of self-doubt given the increase in competition with the passing years. The pandemic too has had an adverse effect on the well-being of many students and has stunted their growth.

Keep negativity at bay

The national-level entrance examination is a period when students put in their time and effort to direct their life towards something substantial. Such a situation is to be handled with a great deal of positivity and self-confidence. However, doubts start appearing on the horizon when uncertainty trickles in. Many students give up and that is when things tend to go downhill.

Dr Saras Bhaskar, Counseling Psychologist and Founder of Professional Counseling Services, Chennai, states, "Tasks taken up with fear are not positive emotions. While the preparations are ongoing, having a parallel thought of negativity might deter the students from performing better. Grappling with self-defeating thoughts is quite important, they must not want to 'BE' the best but 'DO' the best. They must focus on actions and not the outcome."

The counselling psychologist also urges, "One must always have positive influences around and speak to a mentor or a professional life coach. Reaching out is quite important and remember that you are not alone in this journey. Building resilience with help from family and professionals is what one can do in stressful times."

What parents can help with

Dr Om Prakash, Professor (Psychiatry), Senior Consultant in Adult & Geriatric Psychiatry, Institute of Human Behaviour and Allied Sciences (IHBAS), New Delhi, sheds light on the role of parents.

The professor says, "Parental role and guidance is crucial when it comes to directing kids to choose their career. It is important to emphasise on where the student's inclination lies. As the hype is already there for NEET, societal pressure adds more to the existing mental pressures of the students. Hence, they take the task upon themselves to prove their self-worth through such exams. There are helplines available like Tele MANAS, yet students fear approaching them."

A call for introspection

Dr Poorna Chandrika, former director and professor at the Institute of Mental Health, Chennai urges parents to maintain a healthy communication with their wards.

Dr Chandrika says, "There is an array of life goals and ambitions of a student. Yet, I feel parents must relay valid information to their kids and let them know the reality. Acceptance is a must that failure is just a part of it and there are other avenues available. Schools have a major role to play as they can sensitise parents and students alike on the matter. They can also take steps to ensure that the low-performing students are taken great care of and given proper guidance by the authorities."

Dr Anamika Sahu, Assistant Professor, National Institute of Mental Health and Neuro Sciences (NIMHANS), Bengaluru, laid emphasis on individual efforts. It is quite important to introspect within and find out where one may be going wrong. It may be taxing for some yet it might help a person to develop a profound sense of their abilities, she says.

"Stress is a major hindrance for situations as such, hence, it is a good option to connect with the immediate environment and not isolate themselves. Socialising with people and getting involved in activities such as sports, yoga and meditation will prove fruitful," says the Assistant Professor.

CALL THESE NUMBERS FOR HELP

Tele MANAS, a comprehensive mental health care service, can be reached at 14416, which is a 24/7 toll-free number. Sangath is a not-for-profit organisation that runs the helpline number 011-41198666. Fortis' mental health line can be reached at 8376804102

CONSIDERED SWOT?

Dr Anamika Sahu stresses the need to have an action plan, she suggests doing a SWOT (Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats) analysis and listing internal strengths and weaknesses, and what can help shape the future

Do away with negativity to cope with failure. Having a better perspective of situations and reaching out for help are also options. As voicing out issues rather than channelling the angst exacerbates the situation

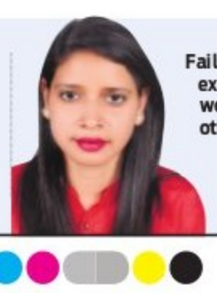
Dr Saras Bhaskar, Counselling Psychologist

First, it is important to find out if students are actually interested in NEET. Sometimes, they give in to pressure. In such situations, seeking assurance from experts could help with matters

Dr Om Prakash, Professor (Psychiatry), Senior Consultant in Adult & Geriatric Psychiatry, IHBAS, New Delhi

Reach out for external help when needed. Trying is hard but never trying and not asking for help would be nothing but an act that one might regret at a later point

Dr Poorna Chandrika, Former Director and Professor, Institute of Mental Health, Chennai



Failure is a possibility as it is a competitive exam and students tend to focus on their weaknesses. Comparing their progress to others could sabotage their mental state

Dr Anamika Sahu, Assistant Professor, NIMHANS, Bengaluru

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DAY'S DIARY

GITMO FILES

WikiLeaks reveal

WikiLeaks on this day in 2011 began publishing secret documents relating to the majority of 779 prisoners detained by the United States

CLASSIFIED SECRET

The documents were known as the Guantánamo files. They were the classified "secret" which covered almost every inmate since the camp was opened in 2002

DETAINEES

The files also reveal that an al-Jazeera journalist was held at Guantánamo for six years, partly in order to be interrogated about the Arabic news network

OBAMA ADMINISTRATION

Obama's inability to shut Guantánamo has been one of the White House's most internationally embarrassing policy failures

SPUNK ROCK

PG 3

Avin Thaliath
(@chef_avin), pastry chef and the director of Lavonne Academy of Baking Science And Pastry Arts, dishes out a food-related quiz in this weekly series. Be a real 'whisk' taker and let us know if you have what it bakes. Who knows, your dreams may crumb true.

GRUB HUB

THE QUIZ WILL BE PUBLISHED EVERY SATURDAY

Send answers to **bengalurucityexpress@gmail.com** with the subject line **'Food quiz'** The correct answers and names of the first three respondents with right answers will be featured in CE. The first prize winner this week will win a voucher worth ₹1,000 from Ovensay**

THE RIGHT ANSWERS

1) Lava Pitha 2) Til Papdi
3) Sooji ka Halwa

FIRST 3 TO GET IT RIGHT

1. Sumit S
2. Rajani T
3. Shekhar R

SPICE ROUTE

Ahead of their return to Bengaluru after a six-year hiatus, members of this South Asian a cappella share their line-up for the performance in the 'music-crazy' city

> *The appreciation and affection that the fans have for the group in Bengaluru is just mind blowing*
> Saaketh Narayan, president of Penn Masala

DESE GOWDA

Mid-2017. A typical summer day in Bengaluru, with a high chance of rain. Musical sensation Penn Masala began the first leg of their India tour in the city. Just as the concert got underway at a sprawling outdoor venue, the rain came down hard. While the downpour didn't surprise anyone, the dedication of the fans certainly surprised members of Penn Masala.

Ahead of the group's return to the city after nearly six years, Saaketh Narayan, president of the a cappella shares the group's excitement, "The last time we were here, the fans just stood in the pouring rain while we continued to perform. The appreciation and affection that they have for the group in Bengaluru is just mind blowing. People know every single word of every single song we perform, whether it's English, Kannada, Hindi, Telugu, or Tamil."

A cultural phenomenon that has captured the hearts of music lovers around the world for nearly three decades, Penn Masala has created a genre that blends Indian and western music. The upcoming show, produced by TribeVibe will feature Penn Masala's typical genre of 'Bollywood meets Hollywood' but also dedicated covers of classic Indian songs. "We decided that for some singles, like *Chaiyya Chaiyya* for example, we can only do justice through a form mix. The entire show, the audience can expect to be excited, get hyped, feel a little melodramatic, feel a little emotional through some of the slow ones," Narayan shares.

Recipients of numerous accolades, and invitations to perform at some of the most prestigious venues in the world, including the White House and the United Nations, Penn Masala's success lies in their creative arrangements incorporating elements of Hindi, Tamil, Punjabi and Kannada music in their performances, seamlessly fusing it with English lyrics and melodies from western pop songs. Albert Gu, the group's music director shares the process behind their acclaimed mixes. "Meaning is very important for us. We try to find Hindi and English songs that have similar themes. It resonates with audiences when they have similar themes and emotional characteristics. We also consider some of the more technical musical aspects, like what keys are the songs in like, what are the tempos? That sort of stuff," he says. Prateek Adurty, Penn Masala's incoming music director, adds, "It's also about making sure that if we have a Hindi and English song, the melody is able to be cohesive throughout both and you have a strong overlap where you're able to sing both songs simultaneously."

(Penn Masala will perform in Bengaluru on May 26. For more details, visit bookmyshow.com)

TASTE OF THE SOUTH

The food scene here has been enriched further by the recent emergence of regional restaurants that serve authentic dishes, evoking nostalgia for homemade meals

ASLAM GAFOOR

(The writer is a Bengaluru-based hospitality professional, food lover, and travel enthusiast)

Bengaluru takes its food seriously, and south Indian cuisine plays a significant role in the city's culinary landscape. The food scene here has been enriched further by the recent emergence of regional restaurants that serve authentic dishes, evoking nostalgia for homemade meals and a delightful journey down the memory lane.

Malgudi Mylari Mane, a well-established restaurant on the Bengaluru-Mangaluru highway near Nelamangala, has expanded its reach to the city with a new outlet serving delicious Karnataka-style cuisine. The Koramangala restaurant boasts a blend of contemporary and traditional elements in its decor, featuring Chittara art from Karnataka hand-painted by artists from Shivamogga. The restaurant named after the famous Mylari dosae from Mysuru is a part of its menu served with coconut chutney, saagu, and butter. The vegetarian menu offers thatte idli, akki rotti, and rice accompanied by seasonal vegetable gravies, while meat lovers can indulge in kaal soup, mutton pulav, mutton chops, and chicken keema gojju.

Mama Mangaalore is a recently launched restaurant in Koramangala that offers authentic and pocket-friendly Mangalurean cuisine. The menu is highlighted by the delicious chicken and vegetarian gassi, prepared from a traditional family recipe that emanates the fragrance of caramelised onions and spices. The gassi goes well with idli, appam, neer dosae, kori rotti, and idiyappam. All-day breakfast options include idli, masala dosae, khali dosae, and onion dosae, served with generous helpings of ghee and podi. To complete this home-style Mangalurean experience, the restaurant offers bellada cha or filter coffee with biscuit roti, famous Mangalore buns, and delightful desserts such as kappu sheera and kashi halwa.

The Park Bangalore's all-day diner, Monsoon, has recently incorporated the finest local and regional dishes from Karnataka. Their menu is a perfect blend of local flavours and seasonal ingredients, making it an ideal destination for food enthusiasts who seek an authentic dining experience in Bengaluru. Among the must-try dishes from the Karnataka classic selection are Kundapura koli saaru, Mangalorean fish curry, Bijapur mutton ghee roast, pork pandi curry, mosaranna, and paneer gassi, which offer an authentic taste of the region's culinary heritage.

Oota Bengaluru, a restaurant that offers a gastronomic expedition through the diverse and flavourful cuisine of Karnataka, has reintroduced its much-loved breakfast menu.

During the weekends, patrons can visit the Whitefield destination and savour ragi roti, Bidadi-style thatte idli, and khara shavige with kai chutney. Non-vegetarian options include moode idli with koli pulimunchi, a zesty chicken dish flavoured with tamarind and chilies, and benne dose with kaima gojju mince stew. To complement the meals, there is a selection of beverages such as Kalladka, a robust three-layered tea made of milk foam, tea decoction, and hot milk, or the classic South Indian filter coffee.

Podi & Spice, situated in the serene Bangalore International Centre, is a notable recent addition to the culinary scene offering a combination of traditional southern flavours with authentic family recipes. The menu here features a range of small plates, including sundal, mushroom ullarthu, palipalayam chicken, and chilli pepper pork, while large plates include vendakai mapas with appam, hitikidbele gujju with parota, meen vevichathu with rice, gowdru mamsa saaru with parotta or ghee rice, and murangakai mutton kari with dosae.

Pics: Vinod Kumar T

IN ROYAL STYLE

M Chinnaswamy stadium was brimming with energy and excitement as home favourite Royal Challengers Bangalore (RCB) clashed with Rajasthan Royals (RR). The high stakes match saw RCB secure a narrow victory, much to the delight of Bengalureans.

BOOK NOOK

Medai Pechin Ponvithigal

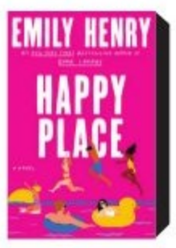
by Selventhiran

In modern life, whether you like it or not, there will always be moments when you need to talk. The advice suggested in this book is applicable to all types of stage speeches. So, this is a book for everyone.

Yaarekh: Prem-patron Ka Sankalan

Edited by Anamika Anu

This book is a compilation of thirty-six letters, which have love, attachment, and the song of love-pain that burns every romance.



Happy Place

by Emily Henry

Harriet and Wyn have been the perfect couple since they met in college. Except, now — for reasons they're still not discussing — they don't. They broke up five months ago. And still haven't told their best friends. They pretend to still be together for their annual weeklong vacation with their best friends.

Once Upon a Prime

by Sarah Hart

An engaging exploration of the fascinating, often surprising relationship between maths and literature.

WHAT WHEN WHY WHERE

Magical Beats

Enjoy a live performance by DJ Chetas where you can have entertain yourselves by grooving to the electrifying beats.

WHERE: Magique, Koramangala
WHEN: April 29, 9pm
DETAILS: bookmyshow.com

GO ECO-FRIENDLY

Bangalore Arts and Crafts Mela is a ten-day exhibition where you can explore the various stalls showcasing Indian arts and crafts, hand-woven textiles, and pottery.

WHERE: Karnataka Chitrakala Parishath, Kumara Krupa Road **WHEN:** April 28, 11am
DETAILS: allevents.in

Humour Hub

Get a healthy dose of laughter to kick start your week at comedian Shankar Chugani's standup show.

WHERE: Amendment Gastrobar, Indiranagar
WHEN: April 24, 7.30pm
DETAILS: bookmyshow.com

Jazz Festival

The third edition of the World Jazz festival features an extraordinary line-up of eminent international Jazz musicians from the Netherlands, USA, among others. **WHERE:** Chowdiah Memorial Hall, Malleshwaram **WHEN:** April 28, 6.30pm
DETAILS: bookmyshow.com

FUN WITH SCIENCE

A course for students of classes IX and X on the topic "The Science of Sound and Music" where fundamental ideas related to sound will be discussed.

WHERE: Jawaharlal Nehru Planetarium, Sankey Road **WHEN:** April 25, 10.30am **DETAILS:** bookmyshow.com

DANCE BEATS

Tap your feet on Punjabi music and get ready to burn some calories in the bhangra workshop. **WHERE:** Dialouges Cafe, JP Nagar
WHEN: April 24, 7.30pm **DETAILS:** bookmyshow.com

ROYAL CHIC

Influencer Zohara Jamal (bottom right) and Gauri Tandon (top right), founder of costume jewellery brand Isharya during the launch of 'Modern Maharani V' collection at Isharya's flagship store on Lavelle Road recently | VINOD KUMAR T

QUICK FIX

BUTTER CHICKEN

Contributed by **Shristi Hazra,** Kolkata

INGREDIENTS

- **Chicken:** 800 gm
- **Red chilli masala:** 2 tsp
- **Ginger Garlic paste:** 2 tbsp
- **Kasurimethi:** 1 tbsp
- **Curd:** 200 gm
- **Salt:** 1 tbsp
- **Sugar:** 1 tbsp
- **Lemon:** 1/2
- **Onion:** 2
- **Tomato:** 2
- **Green chilli:** 3
- **Butter:** 2 tbsp

METHOD

- Martinate the chicken for at least two hours.
- Toss the onions, tomatoes, bay leaves, cinnamon, cloves, ginger, and garlic with a pinch of salt in oil. Make a paste and keep it aside.
- Fry the marinated chicken before adding it to the gravy.
- Add oil and then stir the paste for a while.
- Add the fried chicken into the gravy and cook it for atleast 10 mins in medium flame.
- Serve it with buns or rotis.

What's cooking in your kitchen?

We are hungry for recipes with minimum ingredients and maximum flavours. Share your quick-fix with us, along with step-by-step photos, at bengalurucityexpress@gmail.com

FIT BIT

PARIVRTTA ARDHA HANUMANASANA VARIATION (REVOLVED HALF SPLITS POSE)

It is an intermediate level yoga pose, which is a kneeling variation pose of Revolved Half Splits Pose.

STEPS

- First, start in Adho Mukha Svanasana (Downward Dog Pose).
- Exhale and bring your left leg towards the front with the right leg knee bent and touching the ground.
- Begin breathing in from this position and leave your right arm up in the air while the left palm is placed on the floor.
- Make sure that the left fingers face the same direction as the left foot. The right arm face should be the same as the direction of the face.
- Next, when you take your arms to the designated positions, start twisting the body with the neck slightly tilted.
- Inhale taking a twist, exhale and place the left palm on the floor. Breathe with awareness.
- Holding the position with balance, stay as per your capacity.
- Ensure that the left palm must be placed on the floor, exactly in front of your left leg or left calf, to be specific.
- All the above steps make one round.
- Now, begin with alternative legs and arms on the opposite side.
- After practicing 3-5 repetitions, release the pose and come back to Adho Mukha Svanasana.
- Finally relax in Balasana (Child Pose).

BENEFITS

- Helps athletes perform better.
- Leads to flexibility in the back and neck.
- Strengthens the abdomen and reduce body fat.
- Increases breath rate and acts as a heart opener.
- Helps desk-job staff to sit for a long time.
- Nourishes the back, followed by a desirable posture.
- Circulates the prana across the body.
- Relaxes the body and mind.
- Stimulates the Swathisthana Chakra and activates Muladhara Chakra.
- Helps improve digestion.
- Helps healing thyroid-related disorders.
- Recovers from lower back pain, pelvic stiffness and mild sciatica issues.
- Stretches the Achilles tendon.
- Releases myofascial pain and cures fibromyalgia.
- Brings emotional stability.
- Help in gaining physical balance.
- Make the energy and blood circulation across the body smoothly.

LIMITATIONS

People with a recent injury or recent recovery from any surgeries of the hips, back, or waist, anxiety issues, severe sciatica pain, piriformis syndromes and senior citizens should avoid this.

By N Elumalai, PhD scholar (Yoga Science) at Meenakshi Academy of Higher Education & Research, Chennai

NOW STREAMING

REGIONAL

AYOTHI (Tamil)

Revolves around a man who gets mired in a criminal case in an unexpected circumstance. How he tries to save himself despite detractors lurking in every turn.

Cast: Pugazh, Preethi Asrani, M Sasikumar

- **Watch on:** ZEE5

SADHA NANNU NADIPE (Telugu)

When a pretty girl who's about to die soon falls for a small time thief, he struggles to come to terms with it.

Cast: Vaishnavi Patwardhan, Lanka Pratheek Prem Karan, Mohammad Ali

- **Watch on:** Disney+ Hotstar

MAHESHUM MARUTIYUM (Malayalam)

A triangular love story between a man, a Maruti 800 and a woman set in 1983.

Cast: Mamta Mohandas, Asif Ali, Varun Dhara

- **Watch on:** Amazon Prime Video

FARAAZ (Hindi)

Police spring into action when Islamic terrorists take hostages inside a Bangladesh restaurant.

Cast: Zahaan Kapoor, Aditya Rawal, Juhi Babbar

- **Watch on:** Netflix

BALAGAM (Telugu)

Balagam revolves around the after effects on a family and its relations, both with the village folks and among themselves after the jovial patriarch of the family passes away

Cast: Priyadarshi Pulikonda, Kavya Kalyanram, Kethiri Sudhakar Reddy

- **Watch on:** Amazon Prime Video

All the streaming apps can be accessed on smartphones and smart TVs with Internet connection.

ANGER TALES (Telugu, series)

Anger Tales is all about four characters who experience extreme anger due to the respective situations in their lives.

Cast: Venkatesh Maha, Madonna Sebastian, Bindhu Madhavi

- **Watch on:** Disney+ Hotstar

DR56 (Tamil)

Priya, a CBI officer, comes to the city to investigate a murder case. Arjun suffers from some strange disease. Can the two solve this mystery together?

Cast: Priyamani, Deepak Shetty, Ramesh Bhatt

- **Watch on:** Amazon Prime Video

FOREIGN

THE PRINCESS (English)

When a strong-willed princess refuses to wed a cruel sociopath, she is kidnapped and locked in a remote tower. With her scorned, vindictive suitor intent on taking her father's throne, the princess must protect her family and save the kingdom.

Cast: Joey King, Olga Kurylenko, Dominic Cooper

- **Watch on:** Disney+ Hotstar

TED LASSO (English, series)

An American football coach is hired to manage a British soccer team; what he lacks in knowledge, he makes up for in optimism, determination and biscuits.

Cast: Jason Sudeikis, Hannah Waddingham, Brett Goldstein, Juno Temple

- **Watch on:** Apple TV

SHANE (Documentary)

An exploration of the highs and lows of retired Australian cricketer, Shane Warne, from his early years when he wasn't interested in the sport, to how he became one of the greatest bowler of all time.

- **Watch on:** Disney+ Hotstar

EVERYTHING EVERYWHERE ALL AT ONCE (English)

When an interdimensional rupture unravels reality, an unlikely hero must channel her newfound powers to fight bizarre and bewildering dangers from the multiverse as the fate of the world hangs in the balance.

Cast: Michelle Yeoh, Jamie Lee Curtis, Ke Huy Quan

- **Watch on:** Sony LIV

SUBSCRIPTION

ZEE5:	₹799 per year
Prime Video:	₹179 per month
Disney+Hotstar:	₹199 for 3 months
Netflix:	₹149 per month

SPUNK ROCK

A sporty, solid crossover, Maruti Suzuki FRONX is set to stir up the entry-level SUV market

XPRESS HIGHWAY
FORTNIGHTLY SEGMENT ON WHAT'S REVVING UP IN THE AUTOMOTIVE SECTOR

LEKSHMI C PILLAI

FRONX is quite an amusing name for a car, especially when the Indian mass market is considered. I still come across people referring to Swift as 'Shift'. Well, what's in a name?

In the case of Maruti Suzuki's latest SUV, the makers say the name represents the chutzpah of today's Indian youth — it's portmanteau of 'Frontier Next'. Sounds good? Does the machine measure up?

I decided to put the FRONX to test in Goa, checking out its performance on different terrains and traffic conditions.

Looks good

First things first: scoring in appearance is vital in today's car market. And, SUVs or cars with SUV-type bodies have, no doubt, been in vogue for some time now. The trend continues. That means, if a car company wants to grow, it should keep adding new SUV models to its portfolio.

FRONX has been conceived with that goal in mind. With its Grand Vitara (mid-size SUV) and Brezza (compact SUV) doing pretty well, Maruti Suzuki is now targeting the entry-level SUV market by launching a model at a lower price point than the latter.

In simple terms, FRONX is the SUV version of the premium hatchback Baleno. But it is not just a cosmetic job. Maruti has really developed an entirely new SUV on the Baleno platform. FRONX flaunts coupe styling. Those loyal to tall, boxy SUV looks may prefer to call it a crossover.

This attractive car comes with all key SUV features, including a Vitara-like front end, 19cm ground clearance and a turbo petrol engine that delivers ample power for it to be tagged 'sporty'.

Featuring a glossy black grille in a wave design and a wide chrome strip at the top, the front design of the car is similar to the Vitara. At both ends of the chrome strip, there are block-design LED daytime running lamps (DRL).

A little lower, the LED headlamps are also set in a special block design. The lower variants come with halogen projector headlamps. The front design of the FRONX ensures the kind of road presence the youth would appreciate.

Although it shares similarities with the Baleno on the sides, the 16-inch alloy wheels and 19cm ground clearance make it stand apart. The top gets a roof rail, which completes the 'SUV feel' of the car.

The LED tail lamps in the block design are further enhanced by a connected light strip. The length of the car is just 5mm short of four meters. Its height is 1,550mm and width, 1,865mm. With a wheelbase of 2,520mm, the turning radius of the FRONX is 4.9m.

Turbocharge

After a long time, the turbo petrol engine is returning to Maruti's range. The 1L, three-cylinder petrol engine comes with a turbocharger, and produces 100HP of power, and 148 Nm of torque.

FRONX is also available with a 1.2L regular (naturally aspirated) petrol (4-cylinder) engine. It delivers 89HP of power and 113Nm torque. The Turbo model gets an automatic 6-speed torque converter in addition to the manual mode, while the standard petrol engine comes with a manual gearbox and an AMT automatic.

INSIDE AFFAIR

The Interiors of the FRONX have some similarities with the Baleno. The 9-inch touchscreen dashboard and all other buttons have that Baleno look. The cabin is spacious and has a premium feel. Seats are wide and offer good support. The backseat has three adjustable headrests and seatbelts. This ensures comfortable travel for three, but the centre armrest is missing. The battery pack of the mild hybrid system is placed under the front passenger seat. The infotainment system is refined and useful. Visuals from 360-degree cameras are shown in impressive resolution. Smart connectivity and the sound system are also top-notch. And yes, the car offers wireless charging for smartphones.

The company claims a mileage of over 20km per litre for all models. I tested the manual and automatic variants. The engine delivers lag-free performance. And it is quite enjoyable to drive, right from the start to triple-digit speeds.

The manual gearshift with the easy clutch makes the vehicle smooth to zip around. The automatic version has a paddle shifter along with the steering wheel; it offers that quick burst of power.

I pushed the FRONX on a specially prepared track as well to gauge its abilities. Its sharp turning ability, powerful braking, traction, manoeuvrability and stability get a thumbs-up. Thanks to the 360-degree camera visuals on the 9-inch screen, I could even drive a fully covered car in reverse with no hassles.

FRONX has security settings as per the latest standards. The top variants have six airbags. The car is available in single- and dual-colour options. Some features like the sunroof and ventilated seats are missing.

Pricing will be announced soon and is expected to be between the Baleno and Brezza.

FRONX certainly is a compelling proposition for anyone planning to buy an entry-level SUV.

The writer is a freelance auto expert who hosts TV shows and anchors the YouTube channel 'CARKADUVA'

VILOX accessory pack

Maruti has showcased a special accessory collection for FRONX. The VILOX collection has beendesigned with sporty d colour nuances, and lots of premium accessories.

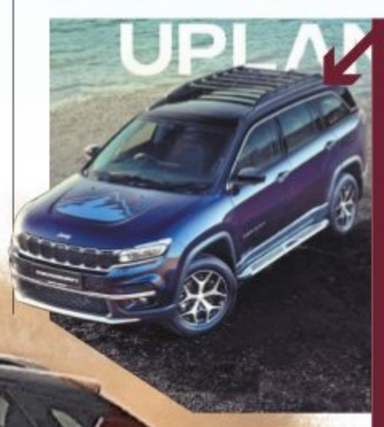
NEW RELEASES

TATA'S RED-DARK AVATAR

Tata Motors announced the arrival of its Red Dark edition of SUVs. The Dark edition of Harrier and Safari, which were teased at the Auto Expo, comes with new features and Advanced Driver Assistance System (ADAS) flaunting a black exterior with accents. The interiors are further accentuated with an exquisite red theme and leather seats. The Red Dark edition of Nexon also has black body with interesting red inserts. Launched at an attractive price point of ₹15.65 lakh for the Safari, ₹14.99 lakh for the Harrier, and ₹7.79 lakh for the Nexon, the new BS6 Phase II portfolio, featuring the Red Dark range can now be experienced and booked from the nearest authorised Tata Motors dealerships.

ŠKODA KUSHAQ, SLAVIA SPECIAL EDITIONS

Škoda has introduced a new product onslaught for flagship variants Kushaq and Slavia. It is part of continuous product refreshments and actions planned for 2023. Škoda India is celebrating the first birthday of the Slavia sedan with an all-new anniversary edition. Kushaq will get an all-new variant above the current Style version. The premium lava-blue shade of Octavia, Superb and Kodiaq will also debut in India.



JEEP MERIDIAN SPECIAL EDITIONS

The iconic premium SUV brand, Jeep has launched two limited special editions for its Meridian SUV — the Meridian X and Meridian Upland. The Meridian X is designed to suit the urban lifestyle where customers are looking for elegance and a premium drive experience. It comes with a stylish body, colour lowers, grey roof and alloy wheels with grey pockets. It provides exterior additions such as side moulding and puddle lamps with interior modifications such as ambient lighting. Meridian Upland has enhanced adventure elements suited for customers who would like to 'go anywhere, do anything'. This special edition is targeted at those who want to drive through different terrains. Bookings for the Jeep Meridian's Special Edition are open. The price starts at ₹32.95 lakh.

CITY READ

Manipal Hospitals raise awareness about life-saving measures ahead of IPL match

Manipal Hospitals is continuing with its initiatives aimed at raising awareness around life-saving measures during heart emergencies. This time, the hospitals brought together 20 Transplant survivors and donors, as well as doctors to watch the match between Royal Challengers Bangalore (RCB) vs Rajasthan Royals (RR) on Sunday at M Chinnaswamy Stadium, where they raised awareness on how to save lives by executing a cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) demonstration before the game.

Floral exhibition inspired by Bengaluru's art and culture to be held

A one-of-a-kind floral exhibition will be held on April 24 at Gallery G, Lavelle Road. Organised by floral brand Farmerr, the exhibition will feature specially curated floral arrangements made with moss, agapanthus, santinis and other locally-sourced flowers. The arrangements will be showcased in a life-like representation of Lego, a brand that enables to build home based scale models of anything real or fictitious.

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PUBLIC NOTICE

CHANGE OF NAME

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **Jayanthi Ramesh Kumar Jain** residing at No.20 old no 25, 58th Cross, 4th Block, Rajajinagar, Bangalore- 560010 have changed my name from **Jayanthi Ramesh Kumar** to **Jayanthi Jain** vide affidavit dated: 19.04.2023 ,Sworn before notary D.S. Chandrakanth, Bangalore

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **KUPPA HARITA**, Aged about 33 years, D/o Madhusudan Kuppa, Residing at Flat No. 5132, Tower 5, Prestige Shantiniketan, ITPL Road, Whitefield, Bangalore-560048. I have changed my name from **KUPPA HARITA SARVANI (Old Name) to KUPPA HARITA (New Name)**. both names are belongs to one person only. vide affidavit dated **20.04.2023,** sworn before advocate and notary **J.Anand Kumar, Bangalore.**

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **PUSHPAVATHI** D/o **Samuel Nerella** R/at No.78, G.Floor, M.M. Road, Mariyannapalya, H.A.Farm Post, Beside Kadamba Car Service, Bangalore- 560024, have changed my name to **PUSHPAVATHI SAMUEL,** vide affidavit dated: 19/4/2023 Before Notary **Ganesh Gowda .M.V** Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **HEMANTH KUMAR HOSAHALLI VENKATAREDDY,** S/o H.Venkatareddy, aged about 43 years, R/at #32, 3rd A Cross, 1st Main, Chikkadevasandra, K.R.Puram, Bangalore - 560036, Karnataka, India.
I have changed my name from **"HOSAHALLI VENKATAREDDY HEMA KUMAR"** to **"HEMANTH KUMAR HOSAHALLI VENKATAREDDY"** vide affidavit dated **21.04.2023,** sworn before notary **N.Nagappa,** in Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **RAVIRAJA C,** residing at No. 2, 1st Main Road, Near Sardhana Indane Gas Agency, Vidyapeeta Layout, Banashankari 3rd Stage, Thyagarajanagara, Bangalore-560 028 do hereby declare that I have changed my name from **RAVIRAJA MADYASTHA CHITRAPADI** to **RAVIRAJA C,** henceforth I shall be known and called as **RAVIRAJA C** only for all purposes, vide affidavit dated 22-4-2023, sworn before Advocate and Notary **H.G. VENKATARAMU** at Bangalore.

AFFIDAVIT
I, **MANJULA RAMAN,** aged about 66 years, W/o N. Kalyanaraman, R/of No. 23, 2nd Floor, 5th Main, Gadi Muddanna Road, Kamakshipalya, Bangalore-560079, do hereby declare that both the names i.e., **MANJULA RAMAN** and **MANJULA KALYANARAMAN** are one and the same and belongs to me only, vide affidavit dated 21-4-2023, sworn before Advocate and Notary **RATNA .N** at Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **Anandarama Aithala** S/o Thammayya Aithala , Flat No 001, S V Paradise , No 1916 2nd A Cross , N G E F Layout Nagarabhavi Bangalore-72, here by declare that I have changed my name as **Kodikanyana Anandarama Aithal** as per records. This is with immediate effect . All are requested to note the changes.

CHANGE OF NAME
I hitherto known as I, **NAGEENA PARVEEN A R** daughter of ABDUL RASHEED working as Senior Technician at National Institute of Mental Health and Neuro Sciences , resident of No.274, 7th Cross, 26th Main EWS, BTM 2nd Stage , Bangalore , Karnataka - 560076.have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as **NAGINA PARVEEN** for all purposes. Vide Affidavit dated 20.04.2023 before Notary Chandrakala, Bengaluru.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **RASHMI V BEMBALAGI** W/o **Sandesh S Angadi** R/at No.404, A Block, Krishna Arya Elegance, 11th Main, 9th Cross, Ashokpuram Main Road, Mahalakshmi Layout, Bengaluru- 560022, have changed my name to **RASSHMI BEMBALAGIE** vide affidavit dated: 19/4/2023 Before Notary **B.V.Nirmala** Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **SAI SWABHANU REDDY,** S/o. T. Vijaykumar, residing at NO.24, Sri Sathya Sai Nilayam, Chinnapanahalli, Village, Marthahalli Post, Bangalore 560037, have changed my name from **SAI SWABANU** to **SAI SWABHANU REDDY,** vide affidavit dated 18/4/2023 sworn to before M.Narendran advocate and notary Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **R MAHESH,** Aged about 34 years, S/o. Ramachandra, resident of No.146/A, 2nd Cross, Behind H P Petrol Bunk, H B R Krishna Reddy Layout, Bengaluru - 560043, karnataka, shall hence forthbe known as **MAHESHACHANDRA SHETTY,** vide affidavit dated 22.04.2023, before notary, K.V. Mani, Bengaluru.

LOST
I, MOHAMMED HUZAIFA, No. 341, 2nd Cross, Near Siddiquia Mosque, Gangondanahalli, Lawyer palya, Bengaluru-560039, have lost my Original Statement of Marks Sheet of 10th ICSE Board, Unique ID 7583260, Certificate of MIGRATATION, Provisional Statement of Marks. Examination Year - 2021-2022 issued by ICSE Board. If anybody found please inform me mobile number 8123823020, 6364769806 or nearest police station.

CHANGE OF NAME
I **Vanitha Anandarama Aithala** W/o K. Anandarama Aithala No . F - 01 , S V Paradise, 2nd A Cross, NGEF layout Bangalore North, Bangalore 560072 , hereby declare that I have changed my name as **Kodikanyana Vanitha Aithal W/o Kodikanyana Anandarama Aithal** (K. Vanitha Aithal W/o K. Anandarama Aithal) with immediate effect. All are requested to note the changes.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **DAYANANDA** S/o **Rajanna** Residing at Veeranayakanahalli (V) Honnudike (P) Tumkur-572122 (Camp at Bengaluru) have changed my name to **DAYANANDA PALEGAR.V.R.** and **DAYANANDA PALEGAR VEERANAYAKANAHALLI RAJANNA** vide affidavit dated: 22/4/2023 Before Notary **H S Sakalesh Aradhya**

CHANGE OF NAME
I, R. VIVEK, S/o Sri. G.Ramesh, aged about 26 years, Residing at No.8/1, 5th Cross, Gupta Layout, Thayappa Compound, Ulsoor, Bangalore - 560008.
I have changed my name from **"R.VIVEK"** to **"JAIVARADHAN.R."** vide affidavit dated **19.04.2023,** sworn before notary **C.V.Erappa** in Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **SHEETAL .K,** D/o Sri Kushal Raj, W/o Sri Rishabh R Rathod, aged about 27 years, R/at No. 38, Rathod Niwas, 3rd Floor, Surveyor Street, Basavanagudi, Bangalore-560004, do hereby declare that I have changed my name from **SHEETAL .K** to **SHEETAL R. RATHOD,** henceforth I shall be known and called as **SHEETAL R. RATHOD** only, vide affidavit dated 21-04-2023, sworn before Advocate and Notary **SHIVASHANKARAPPA** at Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **VEMULA ASHA DEVI, W/o Late Vemula Rangaiah Service No.731202-GNo JC-186211Y. Rank: JWO**, R/at No.402, Kamadhenu Enclave, 3rd Cross, Layout, Bengaluru-Chandramouleshwar Hunasamaranahalli-562157, Do hereby solemnly affirm that my minor daughters name is **V. LALITHA YAMINI** but in service documents it is wrongly mentioned as **LALITHA YAMINI**. Both the names belongs to my daughter only and henceforth her name will be V. LALITHA YAMINI Vide affidavit dated 05.04.2022 sworn to before **VI Addl Chief Metropolitan Magistrate, Bangalore.**

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'If *KGF* broke the language boundary of India, *Kantara* broke the religious boundary'

...mentioned *Ponniyin Selvan 2* actor Jayam Ravi, who along with Vikram, Trisha, and Karthi attended a press meet in Bengaluru to promote the film

CE FEATURES

IT is clear that *KGF* and *Kantara* are still the talk of the town across all languages, and the latest to praise these two films was the cast of *Ponniyin Selvan*. Director Mani Ratnam's *Ponniyin Selvan 2* is set to hit the screens on April 28. Ahead of the release, the primary cast of *PS-2* are doing the promotional rounds, and the latest pitstop was Bengaluru. Addressing the media, Vikram, Trisha, Karthi, and Jayam Ravi spoke about Kannada cinema, its success, and their wish to be part of the industry.

"If *KGF* broke the language boundary of India, *Kantara* has broken the religious boundary," said Ravi, who mentioned that over the last few years Kannada industry has played an important role in the world of cinema.

While Vikram and Karthi expressed their wish to work in Kannada films, Trisha mentioned that she was reminded of the late Puneeth Rajkumar. "I have previously worked with Puneeth Rajkumar, and we were supposed to work together for a film, directed by Pawan Kumar. But, unfortunately, it did not take off. I enjoy watching Kannada cinema and even watched *Kantara* twice. I am looking forward to working here," said Trisha.

Answering questions about *PS-2,* Vikram asserted that *Ponniyin Selvan 2* is a must-watch film. Echoing the sentiment, Karthi said, "We hope the love shown for *PS-1* will be showered on the sequel as well. *Ponniyin Selvan* is a solid exploration of how the Kings of the tenth century lived, and the aesthetic visuals will elevate the experience."

Based on the novel by Kalki Krishnamurthy, *Ponniyin Selvan 1 and 2* is made under Lyca Productions and Madras Talkies. The film will be out in Tamil, Telugu, Kannada, Hindi, and Malayalam.

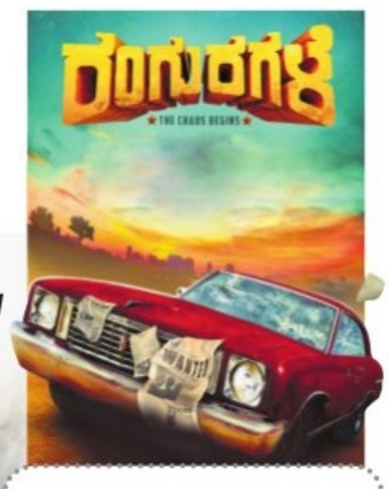
With music by AR Rahman, the film stars Aishwarya Rai Bachchan, Aishwarya Lekshmi, Sarath Kumar, Parthiban, Rahman, Jayachitra, and Vikram Prabhu

Team *Ponniyin Selvan 2* in Bengaluru

ANKITA AMAR, THE LATEST TO JOIN *RANGU RAGALE*

Ankita Amar

The film stars Abhilash, Abhidas, and Sughosh, is directed by debutant Jack



A SHARADHAA

ANKITA Amar, a trained dancer, a singer, a noted anchor, and a popular television artiste, is now training her focus on feature films. Even before the release of her debut film, *Aba Jaba Daba*, Ankita is also working on Chandrajith Beliappa's *Ibbani Tabbida Ileyali*. Meanwhile, she has signed her next, titled *Rangu Ragale*.

Billed as a rom-com, *Rangu Ragale* marks the debut of filmmaker Jack, and stars Abhilash, known for his work in *Love Mocktail*. The other members of the lead cast include popular serial actor Abhidas, and a noted social media influencer Sughosh. The film, which was launched recently, is expected to go on floors this May after the State elections.

Produced by Shashikala Umesh under the Sree Visham Cinemas banner, *Rangu Ragale* features Ravi Shankar, and Rangyana Raghu in pivotal roles. WIth music by Poornachandra Tejaswi, and editing by Sagar MB, Rangu Ragale will have cinematography by Shekar.

Team *Rangu Ragale* at the muhurtam

Scarlett Johansson has no plans to return to *MCU*

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SCARLETT Johansson, who first appeared as Black Widow in *Iron Man 2 (2010)* before moving on to star in *The Avengers* films and *Black Widow* in 2021, has stated that she has no plans to return to the *Marvel Cinematic Universe* in the future.

Speaking at *The Goop Podcast* with Gwyneth Paltrow, Scarlett said, "Yeah, it was awesome. It was like the best time ever. I mean, doing *Avengers* was so much fun. I was 26 years old, I was single, and it was fun! You know, I didn't have any responsibility to anybody but to just enjoy yourself."

Further, she said, "And then every couple of years, we would go back, and do it again, and all be in different places in our lives. Like, somebody would have a kid or be getting married, or divorced, or remarried, or whatever. And it was like, I don't know, an adult summer camp thing. And it was cool. It was really, really some of the best experiences."

Lastly, she confirmed, "I'm done. Yes, I'm done. The chapter is over. I did all that I had to do. Also, coming back and playing a character again and again like that, over a decade of time, is such a unique experience."

Manoj Bajpayee announces his next, *Bandaa*

CE FEATURES

MANOJ Bajpayee took to Instagram on Sunday to announce his next direct-to-digital release *Bandaa*.

The courtroom drama, directed by Apoorv Singh Kharki and written by Deepak Kingrani, will release directly on ZEE5. In the film, Manoj plays an eminent lawyer who single-handedly fights against all odds for truth and justice.

Talking about his collaboration with ZEE5, Manoj shared, "After our successful partnership with Silence... Can You Hear it? and Dial 100, we are now bringing a captivating story to life. I am excited to present another glimpse of *Bandaa*, which will premiere soon on ZEE5." Director Apoorv Singh Karki said, "*Bandaa* has everything in it – a hard-hitting story, a calm and assertive actor like Manoj Bajpayee and a solid supporting cast."

A Zee Studios and Bhanushali Studios Limited presentation, Suparn S Varma's courtroom drama *Bandaa* is produced by Vinod Bhanushali, Kamlesh Bhanushali, Asif Sheikh and Vishal Gurnani and co-produced by Juhi Parekh Mehta.

Singham Again release pre-poned

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AJAY Devgn and Deepika Padukone starrer *Singham Again* will now release earlier than expected. The Rohit Shetty directorial was earlier supposed to hit theatres by Diwali 2024. Now, the film will be up on screens by Independence Day.

The film will hit theatres in August 2023. Trade analyst Taran Adarsh took to Twitter on Saturday to make the announcement.

Singham Again will see Deepika in a cop avatar. The film is going to be the third instalment of Rohit Shetty's cop franchise Singham.

Singham was released in the year 2011, and apart from Ajay, starred Kajal Aggarwal and Prakash Raj. It was followed by *Singham Returns* in 2014.

Drew Starkey, Daniel Craig to feature in Luca Guadagnino's *Queer*

CE FEATURES

ITALIAN filmmaker and writer Luca Guadagnino is set to helm the adaptation of William S Burroughs' short story *Queer*, with actors Daniel Craig and Drew Starkey.

While Daniel will be playing the role of renowned counter-culture author's alter ego and outcast American expat residing in Mexico, Drew will be starring in as a younger man who he becomes infatuated.

Besides Daniel, the film will also star Lesley Manville, Jason Schwartzman, and Henry Zaga. The film, set in Mexico City, will go on floors in April at Rome inside the studios. It is backed by Italian company The Apartment along with Luca's Frenesy Film. Playwright Justin Kuritzkes, a frequent collaborator of Luca, is also onboard *Queer*.

Queer is set against the Mexico City backdrop of the 1940s and is a semi-autobiographical story of Lee who flees New Orleans from a drug bust. As he comes to Mexico City, he wanders around the bars and clubs of the city. Soon, he becomes infatuated with American Navy serviceman Allerton, as both of them go on a trip in search of a drug.